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BIRTHS.

At Wenchow, on the 25th November, the wife of W. S. AYRTON, H.B.M. Consul, of a son.

On the 13th inst., at 132, Praya East, the wife of JOHN RODGER, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Shanghai, on the 1st December, at the Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., JAMES GIBSON, of Chinkiang, eldest son of the late DANIEL GIBSON, merchant, Glasgow, to LYDIA, eldest daughter of the late HENRY MARTIN, of Canterbury, Victoria.

On the 8th December, 1897, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, HARRY KAYE CECIL FISHER, to MAY AMANDA GREENE.

On the 8th December, 1897, at the Grand Hotel, Yokohama, ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Mrs. FRANCES BEAVER, of New York city, to JOHN GOODNOW, U.S. Consul-General, Shanghai.

On the 8th December, 1897, at the German Consulate-General, Shanghai, before Consul Zimmermann and afterwards at Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., MARION GILCHRIST, younger daughter of JAMES JOHNSTON, of Shanghai, to MAX P. HOERTER, of Shanghai.

DEATHS.

At No. 9, Seward Road, Shanghai, on the 2nd November, CATHARINE SOPHIA, widow of the late ROBERT JOSEPH ARNOLD, of Southampton, aged 70 years.

At Wenchow, on the 26th November, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. AYRTON.

At Wenchow, on the 28th November, ELLEN LOUISA, the beloved wife of W. S. AYRTON.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 9th November arrived, per P. M. steamer *Peru*, on the 8th December (29 days), and the English mail

of the 12th November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, on the 13th December (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The British North Borneo Herald states that ramie and hemp are now cut on the Suan Lambah plantations, and trial shipments are shortly going forward.

Dr. von Seldeneck, who was formerly Consul-General at Havana, arrived at Bangkok on the 25th November to take up his duties as German Minister Resident.

Mr. R. F. Thorburn has definitely resigned his position as Secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Council and Mr. J. O. P. Bland has received the substantive appointment.

Sir Nicholas Hannen is to leave Shanghai next month for Siam, being due at Bangkok on February 1st, in connection with the Cheek Arbitration case, in which the United States and the Siamese Government are concerned.

China has yielded to Germany's demands and it was reported some days ago that Germany was to evacuate Kiaochau and receive instead Samsah, in Fukien, as a coaling station, but this report has since been contradicted from Berlin.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—We are informed that H.E. Sheng's long-drawn-out negotiations with the Belgian syndicate have come to a favourable end at last, and the first million pounds sterling will be shortly paid over to H.E. Sheng.

The Nova Scotian ship *John McLeod*, from Iloilo with a cargo of sugar for Halifax, Nova Scotia, struck on the Black Rock at the entrance of Halifax harbour on the 7th November during a dense fog. The crew left in the boats and the vessel sank soon afterwards in thirty fathoms.

The *Claro Babuyan* is a total wreck in Hope Sound, in the Gulf of Pechili. The *Claro Babuyan* was one of the best-known sailing vessels on the China coast. She was a wooden vessel of 358 tons, was built at Sunderland in 1862, and has been on or about this coast, if our memory serves, ever since she was built.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We notice that Mr. K. Frosell, the representative of the Hooley-Jameson Syndicate, has taken up permanent quarters at Shanghai at No. 22, The Bund, Gibb's old hong, now occupied by the Russian Consulate, and we understand that several highly important local industrial enterprises will shortly be brought out under the auspices of the Syndicate.—*China Gazette*.

At the regular half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, held at Tokyo on the 29th November, Mr. Kondo, the President, explained that owing to the loss suffered by the Company to the extent of over 400,000 yen in working the European line, and to the general rise in prices, the Company was unable to declare any dividend for the period under review, the net profit, after appropriations to the reserve and insurance funds, being only 56,000 yen.

Admiral Von Diedrichs, of the German Navy, having received his promotion from the rank of Rear-Admiral to that of Vice-Admiral, hoisted his flag on the *Kaiser* at Kiaochau Bay on the 28th November.

The *Independente* claims that in the partition of China Portugal should have as her share at least the whole of the island of which Macao forms part. Our contemporary urges the importance of Portugal's being permanently represented at Peking, and in view of the present situation recommends that the Governor of Macao, who is also Minister to China, should at once be ordered to Peking or that another Minister should be appointed.

Further details up to the 1st instant have reached us of the prospecting work being done by Mr. Gervase Cooke in Kiangsi and Anhui provinces. Diamond boring for coal is being pushed on within the Tunghsi district, and at Tayeh sinking for coal is going on. The need of coal at the Hanyang Ironworks is very pressing, and encourages prospecting, as it is very expensive to supply the demand from Tientsin. The fire in the Manganshan mines is still burning.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Mr. John Goodnow, the U.S. Consul-General for Shanghai, was married on the 8th December in Yokohama to Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs. Frances Beaver, of New York city. This is the first time for many years that a Shanghai Consul has led a bride to the altar during his term of office. At the wedding breakfast which followed the ceremony, we learn that the guests included Consul-General and Mrs. Govey (Yokohama), Mr. and Mrs. Drake, Mrs. and Miss Hatley, of Chicago. The happy couple are expected to reach Shanghai by the *Coptic*.—*China Gazette*.

From the *Customs Gazette* for July-September we learn that the number of vessels entered at Wuchow during the quarter was 81 foreign river steamers, 12 foreign sailing vessels, 74 Chinese-owned river steamers, and 1 Chinese-owned sailing vessel, the total tonnage being 10,774. The revenue collected was Hk. Tls. 36,242. Amongst the imports were 45,331 pieces cotton piece goods, 3,870 dozens handkerchiefs, 273 piculs English yarn, 13,832 piculs Indian yarn, 384 piculs Japanese yarn, 5,239 pieces woollen goods, 437 pairs blankets, 1,872 piculs metals, and 275,070 gallons kerosine. At Samshui the trade was comparatively small and the total collection amounted only to Tls. 1,200.

Mr. George Jamieson returns very shortly to Shanghai to be Consul-General and Commercial Attaché. This appears to be an attempt by the Foreign Office to carry out the wishes of the China Association, but is really an evasion. What is wanted is an official who can give his whole time to travelling about and studying commercial questions, with headquarters at Peking; whereas it is a physical impossibility that the Consul-General at Shanghai can perform the duties of Commercial Attaché. It is presumed that Sir Nicholas Hannen will remain Chief Judge until the new treaties come into force in Japan, when the British Court at Yokohama will be abolished, and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson will not improbably succeed Sir Nicholas as Chief Judge at Shanghai. But much may happen in the next two years.—*N. C. Daily News*.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

According to our telegraphic advices from Shanghai, China has accepted Germany's terms in order to secure the evacuation of Kiaochau. Those terms were as follows:—

- "(1) Tls. 200,000 indemnity for the two German missionaries killed at Yenchow.
- "(2) The rebuilding of the chapel destroyed in the riot.
- "(3) The payment of Germany's expenses incurred in the occupation of Kiaochau.
- "(4) Li Ping-heng, retiring Governor of Shantung, to be cashiered and dismissed from the public service.
- "(5) The severest penalties upon the murderers of the German priests and upon the local authorities where the riot took place.
- "(6) a. Germans to be given the sole right to open coal mines throughout Shantung province. b. Special privileges to be granted Germans in the matter of railways in the said province, and c. Germany to be given the privilege of storing coal at Kiaochau in perpetuity; i.e., Kiaochau to become a German naval coaling station."

It is said that in the Grand Council the Emperor declared that he was willing to grant articles 1, 2, and 5 of the demands, but as for Articles 3, 4, and 6, "he would rather lose life and throne itself than give way to such preposterous demands." It would seem, however, that reflection has led to a wiser determination and that the expediency of settling the matter promptly has been recognised. Section c of Article 6, giving Germany the right to store coal at Kiaochau, is ambiguous, but it apparently means less than the annexation of territory, though it will form a convenient stepping stone thereto should the adoption of that course be deemed desirable in the future. Whether the right to store coal implies also the right to maintain on Chinese soil a sufficient force for the protection of the coal, or whether that duty is to be thrown on the Chinese authorities as an ordinary matter of police, remains to be seen.

The special privileges accorded to Germany, our correspondent informs us, are to follow the precedent laid down in the fifth article of the Gerard Convention, that is, the Franco-Chinese Convention of 20th June, 1895. By the fifth article of that instrument "it is understood that China, for the exploitation of its mines in the provinces of Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung, will address itself in the first instance to French commerce and engineers, the exploitation remaining otherwise subject to the rules and the edicts of the Imperial Government which affect national industry." This provision, in the case of Germany and Shantung, will also apply to railways, and the Berlin Government will no doubt use its influence in favour of the speedy development of the province's resources. It may be doubted, however, whether China's prompt acceptance of the terms imposed will be welcomed at Berlin, for the obtaining by Germany of an effective point d'appui is thereby deferred. Some disappointment will also be felt amongst the foreign communities of the Far East, by whom it was hoped that an effective lesson was about to be taught China. It would have been better if Germany had never raised the question of an indemnity or advanced any of the demands embodied in the other terms, but had simply taken possession of Kiaochau, marked out the extent of territory suitable for her purpose, and notified her intention to retain it as a German colony in satisfaction for the wrong committed. The payment of the indemnity, the rebuilding of the

chapel, and the punishment of the officials are things that will weigh comparatively lightly with China and be soon forgotten, but the forcible alienation of a part of her territory would have hit her hard and the lesson would have been remembered.

[According to a Reuter's telegram of the 12th Dec., the statement re the evacuation of Kiaochau and the occupation of Samsah (Fukien) is positively denied at Berlin.]

GREAT BRITAIN'S RIGHTS IN CHUSAN.

The *Times*, Reuter informs us, anticipates a redistribution of power in the Far East and recalls the rights of Great Britain under the Convention of 1846 to the group of islands at the mouth of the Yangtze. The article adds that the time may come when Great Britain will have to claim them. The islands alluded to are Chusan and its dependencies. By the Convention of 1846 concluded at Bocca Tigris by Sir JOHN DAVIS, Governor of Hongkong, and the Imperial High Commissioner KI-YING it was stipulated, on the part of the Emperor of China, that on the evacuation of Chusan by Her Britannic Majesty's forces the said island should never be ceded to any foreign Power; while Her Britannic Majesty consented, upon her part, in case of the attack of an invader, to protect Chusan and its dependencies. In the present critical position of affairs it is important that Great Britain's rights in this matter should be unmistakably asserted. It was an error ever to abandon Chusan, which, had it been retained as a British colony, would in all probability have outstripped Hongkong in the extent of its trade and material importance. The British Government have, however, kept a watchful eye upon the island, and when complications between China and other Powers have been in progress a British man-of-war has generally opportunely visited the place. If there is to be any breaking up of China Chusan would certainly be included in Great Britain's share, but circumstances short of an actual breaking up of the unwieldy empire may necessitate effective occupation of that point. If other Powers are to establish naval stations to the north and south of the Yangtze it would seem only a matter of common prudence that Great Britain should possess a station at the mouth of that important artery of trade, in which her interests far outweigh those of any other Power. Germany, it appears, is to have a station on the Fukien coast, and Russia will no doubt in course of time occupy Kiaochau, presently to be evacuated by Germany. In the event of China's being engaged in war with either of these Powers, or any other Power, no dependence could be placed upon the observance of Shanghai's neutrality, and the Yangtze trade might under existing circumstances be completely dislocated. But with Chusan in the possession of Great Britain we would have not only a place for the establishment of a commercial emporium, but also a naval station from which protection could be readily afforded to our trade with the Yangtze and Northern ports as well as to Shanghai itself, where British interests so largely preponderate. It would be an excellent thing if the cession could be arranged forthwith, but if that policy does not commend itself to Her Majesty's Government at least no doubt ought to be allowed to exist as to the effectiveness of the lien we possess on the group.

THE PROTECTION OF CHINESE BRITISH SUBJECTS.

The British Government has apparently taken up a firm position with respect to the non-recognition of Chinese British subjects in China who neglect to register themselves as such at the Consulate of the district in which they reside. From the telegrams we have published from Singapore it will have been learnt that a Straits Chinaman has got into trouble at Amoy, that he has been thrown into a native gaol, and that the Consul declined to recognise him. Thereupon representations appear to have been made by the aggrieved man's friends to the Governor of the Straits Settlements, who communicated by wire with the Consul at Amoy. The latter functionary then referred the matter to Peking, with the result that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD declines to take up the case. Against this decision the Governor of the Straits has protested, and the matter will no doubt be referred to the authorities at home, with whom the final decision will rest. Some five months ago a similar case occurred at Shanghai, where a well known Chinese resident was arrested and thrown into prison by the native authorities on the ground of some alleged irregularity. The aggrieved person in that case also claimed to be a British subject, but, not having registered himself as such, the Consulate declined at first to recognise him. Ultimately, however, influenced no doubt by the strong representations made on the man's behalf, action was taken and his release secured. The Shanghai case would no doubt give rise to a consideration of the whole question of the status of Chinese British subjects in China, and from the attitude assumed in the Amoy case it may be inferred that the decision arrived at was that recognition could not be accorded in cases of non-registration. Speaking generally that decision must be considered a wise one. It is most undesirable to have a class of men in China passing as Chinese subjects while all goes well with them and then as soon as they get into trouble setting up a claim to be treated as British subjects. The existence of such a class is calculated to cause needless friction with the native authorities and to give a great deal of trouble to the various Consulates. Chinese who are entitled to claim British protection are as a rule fully aware of the importance of securing the necessary recognition, and when they fail to do so it may generally be assumed that it is because they consider it will pay them better to pass themselves off as Chinese subjects and are willing to take the risk that course involves. Under such circumstances it seems only reasonable that they should be required to abide by their election. Every rule, however, has its exceptions, and where reasonable ground can be shown it may be proper for the British Government to intervene and claim jurisdiction over the person concerned, notwithstanding his failure to register. Such failure may be the result of an oversight, inadvertence, or ignorance, and under such circumstances it would be a hardship to leave a British subject to the tender mercies and severe squeezes of the native authorities. We know nothing of the circumstances of the Amoy case and cannot say whether it possesses any special features entitling it to exceptional consideration. Possibly the man may have honestly thought his Straits passport sufficient protection without registration at the Consulate, though Straits Chinamen are as a rule wide-awake men who appreciate the risks they run from the native authorities

when they return to China. However that may be, we take it that if it can be shown that the case is really a deserving one protection will be accorded sooner or later, as was done in the Shanghai case. It is well, however, that the risk they run by failure to register should be brought forcibly home to Chinese British subjects in China by not according protection too readily when they have neglected to establish their right to it beforehand.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

At the annual dinner of the China Association, held on the 4th November, the speeches of the evening were made by the Chairman, Mr. W. KESWICK, who proposed "Prosperity to the China Association," and Mr. GEORGE JAMIESON, the Consul at Shanghai, who responded for the guests. Mr. KESWICK took a pessimistic, but not too pessimistic, view of the political situation in China. He referred to the encroachments of Russia and France, and said that in China there appeared to be an absolute absence of anything like statesmanship. He did not believe there was a single man in the Chinese empire who thoroughly understood that unless there be improvement, unless there be reform and progress in accordance with the views of Western Powers, there must be such a decadence in China as will inevitably lead to the dismemberment of the Empire. The position, he said, filled one with despair, because there could only be one end to it, and that was, not an immediate, but a gradual and certain destruction of the Empire. An understanding between Russia and France meant encroachment at both ends, and China was as helpless as a child in its cradle; he did not believe there was that influence innate in China which would ever rescue her from the doom which seemed to overhang her. This was not always the view held by Mr. KESWICK. In a paper he read before the Royal Colonial Institute seven years ago on "Hongkong and its trade connections," although he acknowledged at that time that probably no country in the world was more fruitful of disappointment than China, he said nevertheless that contrasting the China of that date with the China he knew thirty years previously there had been progress, and a marked forward movement, and in one notable respect, which was apart from material improvement, and concerned the sentiments of man, he had observed "a marked and singularly noble change"; he meant that, whereas in former times, and during the war with us, no feeling of national patriotism could be detected, there was now an unquestionable sentiment in that direction, and during the war with the French on the subject of Tonkin it was markedly demonstrative. Having referred to the signs of decay everywhere visible, for which he blamed the system of administration, he said:—"Looking simply at these things one would despair of the Chinese empire and fear that regeneration could only come to the nation through foreign conquest; but, turning from the signs of material decay, and regarding the people, it is impossible not to feel that in them there is still a great vitality and a power sufficient to accomplish their own redemption." The patriotism to which Mr. KESWICK referred in 1890 proved to be only a flash in the pan; the leaders to galvanise it into permanent activity were

wanting. Nevertheless, in speaking of impending political changes and the partition of the Empire we are perhaps all too much inclined to overlook the vitality and power inherent in the great Chinese race. The Manchus conquered China but were themselves in turn absorbed by the Chinese, and, if we are now on the eve of a partition which will alter the political map, the Chinese race with its strongly marked characteristic will still remain a factor to be reckoned with.

Turning now to the speech of Mr. JAMIESON, we find that he also recognises the times as critical, and he made rather an ingenious comparison of China to an old junk, which Great Britain would be glad to dock and repair, and even fit with boilers and engines and make a modern ship of her; but some of our Continental rivals, he said, had a dock or two as well, and would be very willing to take the job. He expressed his satisfaction that a body like the China Association was in existence to help in the work to be done, and said he did not remember a time when there was such entire harmony, accord, and mutual co-operation among the various sections of our people in the Far East, or, to put it plainly, between the mercantile and official elements, as at present. Time was, he said, "and not so long ago, when there used to be a sort of perpetual and chronic antagonism between the Legation and the mercantile classes. Minister came and Minister went, and still this unhappy friction went on, until one came to regard it as something in the nature of things that must be so. Indeed, he hardly remembered a time when it was not the usual thing for one or other of the local prints, and sometimes them all, to serve up some slashing article in which the British Minister was taken to task." This sort of thing Mr. JAMIESON deprecated as doing no good and a great deal of harm; criticism—abuse Mr. JAMIESON called it—was all right enough in party politics, but in China they knew no party and the opposition there were not of their own household. Indiscriminate undervaluing and belittling of their own Minister, he said, was playing into the hands of the opposition, for they could easily understand that when some delicate negotiation was pending and the Yamen was hesitating between Great Britain and some one of their Continental rivals, some such inopportune article might just give the opportunity and enable their kind friends to say, "See what his own countrymen say of the British Minister; you need not mind him. Indiscriminate undervaluing and belittling are certainly to be deprecated, but we venture to think—without setting up any vainglorious claim for the influence of the Press—that it would be an unfortunate day for British trade and influence in China if legitimate criticism of the Legation and its policy were forbidden. The last thirty years in China have been, so far as Great Britain is concerned, thirty years of diplomatic failure and want of support to commercial enterprise. Had the mercantile community remained consistently silent under their grievances the record might have gone on for another thirty years, but the Press afforded a ready means for making complaints heard and at length the necessity of adopting a more vigorous policy, and of going out of the beaten track to find a suitable man to carry out that policy, made itself recognised. Articles in the Press may occasionally do harm in the direction indicated by Mr. JAMIESON, but it is better to take that risk than to set up the enervating theory of the infallibility of officialdom.

JAPAN'S NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AND THE BOUNTY SYSTEM.

Some remarkable figures showing the proportion between the national income and expenditure of Japan are given in an article in the *Kobe Chronicle* headed "The Road to Ruin." The rapid rise of Japan to a high position amongst the Powers of the world, the expansion of her naval and military strength, her industrial development, and the growth of her shipping trade under the influence of the bounty system have dazzled foreign observers and led, perhaps, to an exaggerated idea of the extent of the immediately available resources of the country. It would seem, however, that the pace has been rather too rapid, and already some of her politicians are calling for a halt in the carrying out of the army and navy expansion schemes. The total income of the Japanese people for 1894, the latest year for which complete figures are available, did not exceed, we are told, seven hundred and fifty million yen. That income, it will be found by an examination brought down to date, has expanded but little during the last three years, while the expenditure of the country has more than trebled. The Budget for 1894-95 was 78,128,643 yen; in 1895-96 it advanced to 85,241,433; in 1896-97 it increased to 193,425,717 yen; and in 1897-98 it reached the enormous total of yen 240,504,925. Thus while in 1894-95 the administrative or governmental expenditure of the country was about 10 per cent. of the total income from all sources, for the financial year of 1897-98 it is about 33 per cent. Assuming that upon the completion of the expansion of the army and navy the expenditure is reduced to one hundred and fifty millions annually—which our contemporary fears is very improbable—it would still mean that the taxation necessary to be raised would form a charge of twenty per cent. upon the country's annual income from all sources. This refers to Imperial taxation only and takes no account of the local taxes. The taxation of Great Britain and Ireland is only ten per cent. of the national income, and in France, which is reputed to be the most heavily taxed country in Europe, it is only fifteen per cent. It is pointed out, also, that the percentage of her total revenue which Japan is now devoting to military and naval purposes exceeds that of any other nation in the world. The United States spends on her army and navy 17 per cent. of her revenue from taxation, Russia spends 21 per cent., France 27 per cent., Great Britain 39 per cent., Germany 43 per cent.; while Japan is now spending 55 per cent. "There can be but one result of such a policy if persisted in," concludes the *Chronicle*, "and that is national bankruptcy. Even Japanese politicians are at last beginning to recognise facts which should have been patent from the first, and members of the Diet are clamouring for a contraction of the very programme which they passed with a light heart and almost without debate when it was first laid before them. How Japan will find her way out of the quagmire into which the forward party has led her it is impossible to predict."

In the present position of affairs, with the possibility of being shortly engaged in a life and death struggle with her powerful neighbour Russia, it can hardly be supposed that Japan will hesitate to make great sacrifices to render her army and navy effective. In a country suddenly emerging from comparative obscurity to a high position as a naval and

military Power it is to be expected that the proportion her expenditure bears to the national income should be greater than in other countries that have already made good their position. Exceptional expenditure is a sacrifice that such a country is called upon to make and we cannot doubt that Japan will be willing to do so and to submit to the necessary taxation to the extent of the financial ability of the nation. But while this heavy taxation exists the duty of avoiding all wasteful and improvident schemes for promoting a fictitious commercial activity becomes even more imperative than under ordinary circumstances. Protective duties and bounties impose heavy burdens on the nation that adopts them. Germany, for instance, by her sugar bounties has made a present of many millions of pounds sterling to Great Britain, which the German taxpayer has had to pay. Incidentally the West Indian colonies of Great Britain have been brought to the verge of ruin, but that does not benefit Germany at all from a commercial point of view. With the coming into force of the new treaties Japan will become to some extent a protectionist country and in the meantime she is throwing a considerable amount of money away in shipping bounties. Her best policy would be to adopt free trade, pure and simple, and abandon all bounties. By this means her prosperity would be promoted and the nation would be the better able to bear the strain imposed by the heavy expenditure for military and naval expansion. Although a prompt acceptance of this view is scarcely to be expected it is satisfactory to observe that there is in some directions evidence of a more liberal feeling than prevailed some time ago. In the course of an article on the tenure of land by foreigners the *Japan Mail* says:— "When a victorious war suddenly raised the country to an unexpectedly high position among the Powers of the world, there naturally grew up a mood of over-weening self-confidence, and, at the same time, the large sums of money distributed among the lower-middle and lower classes, as well as the artificial stimulus that enterprise and speculation always receive at such times, helped to convince the people that they had no need either of foreign capital or foreign co-operation. But the receding tide of unreal prosperity and fictitious affluence is now beginning to lay bare the hard facts of the situation, so that thinking men perceive that material expansion without capital is not more possible in Japan than it is anywhere else, and that capital must be sought abroad." Under a liberal regime foreign capital, will flow into Japan in a copious stream but the best means of promoting the national prosperity and developing the country's resources would be the frank adoption of free trade.

THE JUBILEE MEDALS AND THEIR RECIPIENTS.

Of the gentlemen who received Jubilee medals at the hands of H.E. the GOVERNOR on Saturday probably there were many who wondered what they had done to deserve them. On the other hand, some gentlemen not included in the list may possibly wonder why they were omitted, and the public may perhaps also entertain some curiosity on the same point. As a matter of fact we believe the medallists' list was confined to members of the Committee with the addition of a very few gentlemen who were supposed in some way to have rendered conspicuous assistance in

connection with the celebration. Included in the additions were representatives of the Press, though what any of them had done outside the scope of their ordinary journalistic duties we are at a loss to conceive. The recognition of their work, such as it was, will, however, no doubt be highly appreciated by them. Of the omissions mention is made of several by a correspondent whose letter appears in another column. It is rather a delicate task to comment on personal claims in such a matter, but probably the exclusion of the clergy will strike most people as rather remarkable. As to Dr. CLARK, we fail to see our correspondent's point. If work that the Jubilee entailed indirectly on various individuals, both official and non-official, were to be taken into consideration, there would be no end to the matter. It was right that the list should be confined to those who directly participated in the arrangements for the celebration, and highly as we appreciate Dr. CLARK's professional attainments and his services to the colony, we cannot see that any claim can be properly advanced on his behalf to the particular decoration under notice. There is one gentleman, however, who was unmistakably entitled to a gold medal if any one was, but whose name is conspicuous by its absence from the list. We refer to Mr. WICKHAM, the Manager of the Hongkong Electric Company. It will be remembered that owing to an unfortunate muddle the Government abstained from joining in the illuminations on the evening of the second day, and the celebration which opened so successfully ended in disappointment and indignation. The position, however, was to some extent retrieved by Mr. WICKHAM, who, when he heard of the unfortunate determination of the Government, had the Queen's statue illuminated on his own responsibility. It would have been little short of an affront to Her Majesty if, when Her subjects were so enthusiastically illuminating in Her honour, Her own statue had been allowed to remain in darkness. Amongst individual services rendered in connection with the Jubilee celebration Mr. WICKHAM's appears to us to stand out pre-eminently and to be deserving of special recognition.

THE UNITED STATES AND HAWAII.

In his Message to Congress, President M'KINLEY is stated by Reuter to have recommended the definitive annexation of Hawaii. This recommendation will meet the views of a large party in the United States, but it will also excite a good deal of opposition. It is argued by those who oppose the acquisition that the islands are of no value to the Republic, that they are too far distant to be protected without a large naval force, and that their possession would definitely embark the Republic on a new policy opposed to its constitution and interests. Moreover, there is a desire among a large section of the American people to avoid friction with Japan, whose opposition to the step appears to have in no way abated. At the same time the advocates of annexation have also a strong case. The major portion of the trade of the islands is with the United States, American citizens form the largest section of the foreign white population, excluding the Portuguese, who have little influence, and there is more American capital than any other employed in the development of the plantations. The provisional government set up is too feeble to stand alone, and there seems no chance of a joint

protectorate being established that would be equally agreeable to the islanders. If the United States Government can make up their mind on the subject they should do so quickly. Delay is not likely to lead to any settlement of differences of opinion, and may develop new difficulties. The British Government are not disposed to raise objections to the annexation of the islands by the Stars and Stripes, but are more inclined to approve it, and no other opposition is likely to be serious. The Washington Government ought to be able to find some method of satisfying Japan that the interests of Japanese subjects would be safeguarded under American administration, and Japanese immigration might even be encouraged when a strong Government had been established. A supply of labour must be obtained for the sugar plantations from some source, and as Chinese are in great disfavour in America, the Japanese might be welcomed in Hawaii. The trouble probably is, however, that Japan had begun to regard the islands as a small preserve of her own, and is unwilling to surrender the prospect of possible future dominion there.

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

In another column we publish a spirited little homily on the text "Why should I join the Navy League?" The writer supplies a conclusive answer to the question and we would commend his arguments to the attention of all Britishers who have not yet joined the League. To residents in the Far East, who have the importance of maintaining a strong Navy brought home to them so closely and so frequently, the objects of the League ought to appeal with especial force. The subscription is a small one and the bulk of the money raised goes to the parent association, the local expenditure being trifling. It is not for the purpose of increasing the funds that more members are sought, but for the creation and focussing of a healthy public opinion on a subject of vital importance to the Empire, namely, the maintenance of a strong and efficient Navy.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on 8th December in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.

HON. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

HON. W. M. GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

HON. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

HON. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

HON. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Treasurer).

HON. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

HON. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

HON. HO KAI.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

HON. WEI A. YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

THE GENERAL'S ABSENCE.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR explained that H.E. Major-General Black was unable to attend the meeting owing to official duties.

FINANCE.

Financial minutes Nos. 26, 27, and 28 were referred to the Finance Committee, and the Finance Committee's report (No. 11) was adopted.

REPEAL OF SANITARY BY-LAWS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved:—"That this Council approves of the repeal by the Sanitary Board of the Bye-laws made by such Board, under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, on the 19th and 28th days of March, 1895, which were approved by this Council on the 20th day of March, and the 4th day of April, 1895, respectively, and were published in the Gazette by Government Notifications Nos. 111 and 134 of 1895. Such repeal to have effect as regards all such Bye-laws except No. 4 as from the 22nd May, 1897, and, as regards No. 4, as from the 13th day of November, 1897, on which dates respectively new Bye-laws were published in the Gazette."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.
Carried.

THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to give notice that at the next meeting of Council I will ask the following question:—Will the Government lay upon the table a copy of the correspondence which has passed between the home authorities and the Colonial Government in connection with the proposed new Public Offices subsequent to that already published?

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSIONS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Ordinance, 1890. Of course when an elaborate Ordinance like that of 1890 is passed, providing a scheme of pensions, the desirability will be shown of making small amendments from time to time, and this Bill makes two amendments which the Secretary of State has desired should be made. At the same time, by section 2, it makes the effect of the repealing Ordinance, 12 of 1896, clear.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.
Carried.

Council went into Committee on the Bill.

Bill passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

SMALL TENEMENTS RECOVERY ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to facilitate the recovery of possession of small tenements. I think my somewhat lengthy minute explaining the objects and reasons has been circulated to all the members, and one great advantage of such minutes is that it simplifies very much the duties of the mover of the second reading of the Bill. It seems that an Act similar to this is in force in England which enables the speedy recovery of tenements under £20 value. The necessity for that is obvious, as the tenant of property of that description has limited means and a landlord who endeavours to recover possession, when such property is wrongfully held over, has to pay a lawyer and if judgment goes in his favour, and the tenant has not any money, the difficulty is in getting repaid any costs. In this colony sometimes a large number of coolies encroach on a piece of land held by some one under a Crown Lease, in a rural district, and erect match-sheds there, and when it is pointed out that they have no right to be there they refuse to go. The labour of ejecting say 120 of them is by legal proceedings very great and the cost enormous, and if a suitor is successful he would not be able to get any money. Some little time ago, when another gentleman was acting as Attorney-General, he gave it as his opinion that the law on the subject in force in England was not in force in Hongkong. Therefore, to prevent any difficulties I have drawn this Ordinance mainly upon the lines of that Act, with such alterations as the circumstances of the colony require. I do not think any hardship will be entailed in passing this Ordinance, because the execution of a warrant can be stayed if the defendant is willing to give a bond to sue the complainant, and the wrongful obtaining of a warrant is made a trespass, as in England.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Bill read the second time.

Bill passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until Monday, 20th December.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held. Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary) presided, and all the members were present.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

WATER FOR MARKETS.

The first minute was one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote \$401.41 in aid of the vote "Water for Markets, &c." Sanitary Department.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I suppose this is one of the items referred to by my hon. friend (Hon. T. H. Whitehead) in the Budget?

The CHAIRMAN—The question of water for markets is now under the consideration of the Government. The Director of Public Works has addressed a memorandum to the Governor on the subject, but I understand that it is the intention of the Governor to treat this item as was suggested. If there is any departure from that intention the Council will be informed.

Item recommended.

THE COST OF THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

The second item was one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote \$13,451.72 to meet the expenses in connection with the Jubilee celebrations, &c.

The CHAIRMAN—This item also includes the cost of the transport of the Jubilee contingent which represented Hongkong on the occasion of the Jubilee at home. The passages and travelling expenses amounted to \$7,561.25.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I thought the expenses were going to be defrayed by the Imperial Government.

Hon. HO. KAI—Only the passages were to be paid by this Government.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I understood the expenses in England would be defrayed by the Imperial Government.

The CHAIRMAN—The item for expenses incurred by the Police in England amounted to \$77.21.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Oh, that's a small sum.

The CHAIRMAN—That item must refer to something not included in the expenditure defrayed by the Home Government. The illuminations cost \$4,294.57; other miscellaneous expenses amount to \$1,595.90.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Will 17½ per cent. for military contribution be charged in respect of this \$13,000?

The CHAIRMAN—It is not a question of revenue; this is expenditure.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Yes, but before we pass this expenditure there must be revenue to pay for it. Will 17½ per cent. be charged on that?

The CHAIRMAN—The 17½ per cent. will be charged on the total revenue of the colony, less land sales.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I think His Excellency informed us that he endeavoured to get the Secretary of State to do away with the levy on this item and also on the Jubilee fund, but the Secretary of State could not see his way to do it.

The CHAIRMAN—The Council were informed of that.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—This item would not increase or diminish the revenue in any way.

The CHAIRMAN—As the senior unofficial member has stated, the Governor did apply to the Home Government to be allowed not to charge 17½ per cent. on the money expended in connection with the celebration of the Jubilee, but that was not sanctioned.

Item recommended.

NEW CADETS.

The last item was one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote \$275, being the salaries for two new cadets for the months of November and December, 1897.

The CHAIRMAN—A despatch has been received from the Secretary of State informing His Excellency the Governor that Messrs. Messer and Hallifax, who were successful candidates in the competition for cadetships, have been appointed cadets for Hongkong. They were to leave England on the 19th November, so they will be here next month. It is therefore necessary to take this vote.

Item recommended.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee then adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

7th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

GUBBAY AND OTHERS v. BELILIOS.

The hearing was resumed of the equity suit in which the plaintiffs, D. A. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, and A. J. David petitioned the Court, on behalf of themselves and of all others of the Jewish community in Hongkong, except the defendant, for a declaration that the defendant purchased a certain lot of land in this colony known as Inland Lot No. 1,381, as a trustee for and on behalf of the plaintiffs and of all the other members of the Jewish community in Hongkong, and that he now held the property in trust for the Jewish community subject to the payment to him of whatever monies he expended in the purchase.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

Mr. W. Danby resumed his evidence, being examined by Mr. Pollock.

Witness—I spoke several times to Mr. Ezekiel and Mr. Silas about Mr. Belilios's intention as to utilizing the land at the time of the sale of lot 1,381. Mr. Ezekiel was the head of Messrs. Sassoon and Co. and he was succeeded by Mr. Raymond, whom I saw for the first time at the meeting on the 15th March. When Mr. Belilios had bought the three lots I prepared a contoured survey of them, which I produced. I commenced it in September, 1896, and finished the contours in December of that year. The words "site for house" were written on the plan at the meeting on the 15th March and the words "slopes for terraces" were written last year. I prepared a small scale sketch or preliminary plan of a house for Mr. Belilios himself. The plan was for two houses, so designed that they could be thrown into one if desired by taking down a wall. Mr. Belilios asked me before he bought the ground if it was suitable for such a house and I replied that it was. After the acquisition of the ground he gave me definite instructions to proceed with the plans so as to be prepared to get a contract for the building. I have not discussed the question of the site for the synagogue with Mr. D. R. Sassoon, but I spoke to Mr. David about it, and he said it was unfortunate the Committee and Mr. Belilios could not agree. That conversation took place about March this year. I do not remember that Mr. David spoke to me last year about the matter, but I have no doubt he did. On the 11th March I wrote to Messrs. Leigh and Orange, in reply to a letter they wrote to me, suggesting that they should send their drawings direct to Mr. Belilios, who would then be in a position to let them know how much ground he would be prepared to dispose of as the site for the synagogue. The next thing was that Mr. Silas called at my office and said that he, the Committee, and Mr. Orange were going to select the site for the synagogue. On the same day Messrs. Leigh and Orange wrote stating that the Committee had decided to take the whole of lot 1,381. That was the first time I had any intimation that they would claim the whole lot. At the meeting held in my office on the 15th March there were present Mr. Belilios, Mr. Raymond, Mr. David, Mr. Orange (architect for the Committee), and Mr. Silas. I produced the plans and explained them.

Mr. Pollock was proceeding to ask another question when Mr. Francis interrupted.

His Lordship—Mr. Francis, you really must not interrupt. Considerable latitude is given to counsel in cross-examination and you always exercise it to the full. It is a very bad practice you have of interrupting and it is most unfair and prejudicial to the parties.

Mr. Francis—But, my Lord, I have a right—

His Lordship—Pardon me, Mr. Francis. The only right you have is that in case of anything improper being done in the examination in chief you can appeal to the Court.

Mr. Francis—Then I shall have to appeal to the Court every moment, my Lord.

His Lordship—Nothing improper is being done now. You want your point brought out and you will not wait.

Mr. Francis—I did not want my point brought out at once. I simply wanted the point made clear. I want a sensible question to be asked.

His Lordship—You have a very bad habit of intervening and I have spoken to you about it before.

Mr. Francis—It is simply in aid of the Court, my Lord.

His Lordship—It produces ill temper and interrupts the business of the Court.

Mr. Francis—I am sorry your Lordship thinks so.

His Lordship—Please do not interrupt again. You exercise your right in cross-examination very fully.

Continuing, witness said—After some discussion the Committee came to the conclusion that an area shown on Mr. Orange's plan was too large. According to that plan the large room of the synagogue was to be of the same dimensions as St. George's Hall and a ten feet verandah outside that. A discussion also arose as to the compass bearing of the synagogue with respect to Jerusalem. After further details had been discussed a piece of ground was taken off lot 1,382 above, and Mr. Belilios offered no objection. The site for the synagogue was then carefully calculated as being 24,455 square feet, costing \$3,668.20. Mr. Orange then asked Mr. Belilios if he was going to charge interest, and Mr. Belilios said he did not think so. Mr. Orange replied that it was very generous of him. I was then told to work out the design and the exact area and Crown rent. The Crown rent was to be *pro rata* and the price agreed upon was 15 cents per square foot. The Crown rent was not disputed. When that was settled I reminded the gentlemen present that a high retaining wall would have to be built and I wanted to know who was going to pay for it. Mr. Belilios said he would pay half cost. I think it was Mr. Raymond who asked if I could give them an idea as to the cost and I told them I could not tell without getting out detailed sections. They pressed me for a figure and I said probably from \$1,000 to \$2,000, but it was impossible to say for certain. I think I then asked Mr. Orange at what level he intended to have the plateau for the synagogue. He said his intention was to have it higher than the level of the tramway, so that the passengers going up and down the tramway could not see into the synagogue. Mr. Raymond or another member of the Committee told Mr. Belilios the Committee would give \$1,000 towards the cost of the wall. The cost depended on the level of the plateau. Mr. Belilios said he would pay half, no matter how much. No agreement was come to at that meeting about the cost of the wall. In my experience extending over twenty-three years there is usually an agreement as to who is to pay such a cost. I worked out the cost and it came to \$5,000 at about the level Mr. Orange had suggested, and I wrote to him accordingly. Messrs. Leigh and Orange replied that they wanted the wall 20 feet above the Kennedy Road level. I sent for Mr. Silas and explained to him in my office that if they took that level the cost would be very much increased as the foundations would have to be much deeper. He told me he would go and see Messrs. Leigh and Orange. About three quarters of an hour later I received a second letter from Messrs. Leigh and Orange stating that it would be advisable to lower the level ten feet. A wall ten feet above the Kennedy Road level would have cost \$9,232.85.

Mr. Pollock then asked witness to give the dimensions of the present synagogue.

Mr. Francis contended that the question was irrelevant. The pleadings denied that there were any transactions at all and the only intelligible defence set up in the proceedings, but not in the pleadings, was that the defendant contracted to give only a small portion of lot 1,381 and not the whole of it. Therefore the dimensions of the present synagogue had nothing to do with the issue as to whether the defendant bought the land on behalf of the Jewish community.

His Lordship said the pleadings denied that the defendant purchased lot 1,381 for the Jewish community in order that it might be the site for their synagogue, and in order to support

that contention he set up the position that the community would not have required so large a site as that and that a portion of it would have been quite sufficient. Particulars were given to show that a much smaller or a similar building would be sufficient for the purposes of a synagogue. His Lordship thought evidence could be given of the dimensions of the present synagogue with a view to showing it was sufficient. It would have a bearing on the case, but not much.

Witness, continuing, said—The present synagogue is a two storey building, 50 feet 6 inches long and 30 feet wide.

On resuming after luncheon Mr. Danby was cross-examined by Mr. Francis.

Witness—After I had made my estimate of \$5,000 for the retaining wall Mr. Orange wrote to me saying he wanted the level 20 feet above the Kennedy Road. The dimensions of the building fixed upon at the meeting were 70 feet by 70 feet. When I applied for the lower lot we wished to ascertain what was the price of that land; we were not then thinking of buying the upper lots. In April or May, 1896, I went with Mr. Chater and Mr. Hooper to see a lot further along Kennedy Road. Afterwards they turned round and pointing to the upper lots Mr. Chater said, "This is the lot we must apply for." I said Mr. Belilios had told me to apply for it and Mr. Chater asked me if I had done so. I said I had not but that I ought to have done so. On the following morning I told Mr. Belilios I was going to apply, and I did so.

Mr. Francis—Is it not a fact that you proposed to apply for the upper lots on behalf of the Land Investment Company and that because Mr. Chater refused to employ you you went to Mr. Belilios?

Witness—No, certainly not. I acted perfectly fair with Mr. Chater.

Did you tell Mr. Chater at what price the Government were going to put up the upper lots?—I did not know it then.

When was it you got the letter telling you at what price lot 1,381 would be put up?—12th June.

When did you ask the Government to put up the upper lots at a cheaper rate than the lower one?—I have not got the date with me.

Did you tell Mr. Chater that the upper lots could be obtained for 15 cents a foot or less?—I might have done. Mr. Chater knew as much about the land as I did.

Have you anything in your diaries to show when you received definite instructions to apply for the two upper lots?—About twenty-five days before the sale of 1,381, and that was after Mr. Belilios told me to apply for it.

How long after?—About a week.

Was it not before you received those instructions from Mr. Belilios that you had that conversation with Mr. Chater and Mr. Hooper?—No. How could I have told Mr. Chater that Mr. Belilios wanted the land if the conversation took place before?

That is just what we want to get at. Can you tell me what day or days you took to make the surveys for the contours?—A plan like that takes days to prepare. I received instructions to proceed with the work shortly after the sale. I commenced the work about three weeks after the sale.

Were you taking those sections and levels on your own account or by Mr. Belilios's instructions?—By Mr. Belilios's instructions.

When was the question of the retaining wall mentioned for the first time?—At the meeting of the 15th of March. That was the first time Mr. Belilios or the Committee knew of it.

If the whole of 1,381 had been taken by the Jewish community would a retaining wall have been necessary between that lot and the upper lots?—Yes, in some places.

Would that wall have been as expensive as the one proposed?—No.

Continuing, witness said—At the meeting on the 15th March, during the discussion about the plans, some of those present expressed the opinion that Mr. Orange's plan gave too much ground and asked if it was intended to provide a tennis court for the rabbi. My plan provided for a larger synagogue and less ornamental grounds.

The witness's cross-examination was not finished when the Court adjourned.

8th December.

The cross-examination of Mr. Danby was continued.

Witness—I produce my diary. The work of taking sections was commenced on the 17th August, 1896. The work was done by Mr. Harker, my assistant, and the date is recorded in his level book. From my own diary I find I worked on Mr. Belilios's Kennedy Road site on the 1st and 2nd October, 1896. I worked on it afterwards on and off. I have no entry of the date of the application to the Government for 1,381; that is in my letter book. I have no entry of the date when I received instructions to apply. I have no entries in April of the date of instructions in respect of any of the three lots; I do not enter such matters in my diary. On the 16th June I have the entry, "Went with Chater and Hooper over Kennedy Road site." I do not remember writing a letter to the Land Investment Company about 31st July, 1896, in which I expressly stated that Mr. Belilios intended to give lot 1,381 to the Jewish community for a synagogue.

Witness was here asked to send for his letter book.

Mr. Francis—Do you remember sending a memorandum containing your statement of the facts to Mr. Belilios or to Mr. Bell Irving, of the Land Investment Company?

Witness—I sent it to Mr. Belilios, but I read it over to Mr. Chater first.

Have you read over that memorandum during the last few days?—No.

Mr. Francis said he had no more questions to ask except in reference to the letter book.

His Lordship said Mr. Danby could be re-examined now and afterwards questioned about the letter book.

Re-examined by Mr. Pollock, witness said—This morning I worked out the approximate cost of a retaining wall between lot 1,381 and lots 1,382 and 1,383. The wall would be 344 feet 6 inches long, with an average height of 12 feet, and the cost would be about \$2,000. I take the rate at \$2.50 per cubic yard, and the average thickness five feet.

His Lordship—It seems to be a very cheap wall.

Mr. Francis—It is calculated on the number of cubic yards. There are about 700 cubic yards, so it is not very cheap, my Lord.

Further questions on technical points were asked and it was decided to reserve them till a later period to permit of the witness making certain calculations.

Witness then produced his letter book and in reply to questions by Mr. Francis said he had no record of a letter written to the Land Investment Company on the 31st July. There was a copy of a letter he wrote to Mr. Belilios forwarding a memorandum respecting the two upper lots.

By His Lordship—I knew a correspondence was going on in the beginning of March between the trustees and Mr. Belilios, but I had no part in it. I was not present at any meeting between them before the 15th March. There was no reference made at the meeting about the taking of the whole or a portion of the lot. I don't recollect that there was any reference to the correspondence. Towards the close of the meeting Mr. Belilios wanted the others to decide there and then whether they would pay half the cost of the wall. Mr. Raymond said that they would take time to consider the matter. Mr. Belilios insisted on their paying half the cost, and said that if they wanted time to consider the matter would be dragging on.

Aaron Solomon Cohen—I am an exchange and share broker. I have been a member of the Jewish community in Hongkong since 1864 and am the oldest member with the exception of Mr. Belilios. Last year I heard that Mr. Belilios had bought the lot in question in Kennedy Road, and I heard that he intended to give a portion of the ground for the purposes of a synagogue.

His Lordship told Mr. Pollock that the witness's evidence was not very definite.

Witness, continuing—I have heard that members of the Jewish community did not want the land, but they have not told me personally. I told Mr. Silas that I heard Mr. D. R. Sassoon and Mr. A. J. David did not want the site as it was too public. He said

"Never mind. I have another place near Mr. Haskell's house which is not so public." I do not know where Mr. Haskell's house is. I cannot say whether it was last year or this year that I had that conversation. I never trouble my head about dates.

His Lordship—You did not mind going to the Kennedy Road to worship?

Witness—I would not mind. I am not ashamed to go to the synagogue.

His Lordship—Some of them have not good coats, I suppose?

Witness—I do not know.

Mr. Pollock—Are you in favour of this action being brought?

Witness—No, certainly not. If I had been at the meeting I should have objected. I was not consulted about it. I was not asked to sign the document giving authority to the trustees to sue Mr. Belilios for the recovery of lot 1,381.

Mr. Pollock then asked witness who the signatories were.

His Lordship said he did not think that question need be put. The question of title to sue had not been raised. If it had he would have disposed of it first and if the decision had gone in Mr. Pollock's favour a long hearing would have been saved.

Mr. Pollock submitted that the question was a very material one. The defendant had pleaded that the plaintiffs had no authority to sue and counsel wished to show who the signatories to the document were.

His Lordship allowed the question to be put.

Witness—The signatories are—M. S. S. Sassoon, merchant; R. M. Moses, a partner with Mr. Gubbay, one of the plaintiffs, in David Sassoon, Sons and Co.; David Haskell, in the office of M. S. S. Sassoon; O. J. Ellis, clerk in the employ of E. D. Sassoon; I. J. Levy, whom I do not know; K. Raymond, clerk in David and Co.

His Lordship—Really, Mr. Pollock, I do not see where all this will end. Suppose you prove they are all relations or actual employees of Sassoon, how will it affect the case? They are still members of the Jewish community; you cannot take away their rights because of relationship. If a man is a relation of Sassoon do you intend to say he is not a member of the Jewish community?

Mr. Pollock—No.

His Lordship—What do you do it for then?

Mr. Pollock—Simply to show the composition of the Jewish community.

His Lordship—Suppose they are all consins or brothers of Sassoon, they have their rights, I think.

Mr. Pollock said that in the face of that intimation he would not proceed with the question.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis witness said—I did not get a notice to attend any meeting of the community. I do not do any exchange business with any firm except Belilios and Co., but I do a public share business. The Jews do not give me any exchange business now. It is 10 or 15 years ago since I did exchange business with the Jewish firms. I am not related to Mr. Belilios. I live at the corner of Elgin Street.

Mr. Granville Sharp said—I have been a resident in this colony over thirty years. I am the owner of properties in the colony. I was present at the sale of lot 1,381 on the Kennedy Road. Mr. Belilios was present and bought the land. I am not quite clear as to the time or place he had a conversation with me about the lots. Mr. Belilios is in the habit of consulting me about his estates and he has expressed to me his desire to see a synagogue erected in Kennedy Road. Whether this particular conversation took place in my office I do not know. Mr. Belilios told me that most of the Jewish community had limited means and those who were more wealthy were unwilling to guarantee a certain amount and, moreover, they were somewhat disinclined on the matter and some of them were opposed to it, considering the proposed site altogether remote and beyond the reach of the majority of them, but he thought the ground was valuable and he would purchase it himself and build residences. I told him I thought the situation hot and that although houses might be built the tenants would suffer from the heat. I think Mr. Belilios replied that the main thing was to let the houses. I said, "Well, Queen's Gardens have been a success and why not these?" I rather gathered that Mr. Belilios intended to purchase the ground if he

could do so. Mr. Belilios also mentioned that Mr. D. R. Sassoon was hostile to the idea of the synagogue being placed there and would never go into it.

Mr. Francis asked no questions.

Mr. Pollock said that closed his case, subject to Mr. Danby being called later to give certain calculations asked for.

Mr. Francis said he intended to call witnesses by way of reply to issues raised which were not raised in the pleadings.

Mr. Pollock said he should object. His learned friend chose to adopt a certain course and counsel had given a clear intimation of surprise at the course, while his Lordship also asked Mr. Francis if he intended not to call witnesses.

Mr. Francis said the provision in the Code on the subject was contained in paragraph 62, which regulated the order of proceeding at a trial. That paragraph was as follows:—"If the party opposed to the party beginning calls evidence the party beginning shall be at liberty to reply on the whole case, or he may call fresh evidence in reply to the evidence given on the other side, on points material to the determination of the issues, or any of them, but not on collateral matters." The practice in the equity courts at home was distinctly in accordance with that. The defence raised was not disclosed in the pleadings and did not arise on the correspondence. The defence was a denial practically of any transactions between the plaintiffs and the defendant with reference to the lot of land. Defendant's counsel had said that the plaintiffs had misconceived and improperly framed their action and that if they had any action it was for specific performance. There was not the faintest indication of such a contention or position on the face of the defendant's answer. Counsel submitted that defendant ought to have pleaded that there was no declaration of trust and that if there was an agreement it referred only to a portion of the lot and was therefore bad in point of law. As a matter of right and justice counsel submitted that his Lordship would properly exercise his discretion in allowing him to call evidence by way of rebuttal to the evidence which had been given by Mr. Belilios and Mr. Danby.

His Lordship asked Mr. Francis to state the exact points on which he wished to call fresh evidence.

Mr. Francis said he wanted to call evidence first to show that Mr. Danby's statement that Mr. Belilios intended to utilise the land at the time of the sale of lot 1,381 was not true; secondly, to show from the evidence of Messrs. Silas, Raymond, and David that nothing was even said to make them disbelieve that the whole of lot 1,381 would not be handed over; and, lastly, to call evidence to show what had occurred at the last meeting and the discussion that had taken place.

Mr. Pollock quoted from the Annual Practice, 1897, Order 37, Rule 1, under the heading "Rebutting Evidence," which, he considered, differed from that cited by his learned friend.

After some further argument as to the right to call rebutting evidence the hearing was adjourned until Monday.

13th December.

In answer to Mr. Francis, his Lordship thought it would be more convenient for Mr. Danby's evidence to be completed before proceeding to deal with the point raised at the last hearing.

Mr. Danby was then called and said—I have made six estimates of the cost of retaining walls.

Mr. Francis objected to all the estimates being given. The only point on which Mr. Danby was asked to give evidence was as to the cost of a retaining wall to support the south side of lot 1,381 and Mr. Belilios's ground.

His Lordship said Mr. Danby had prepared more than was asked for, but it would perhaps be as well to give all the estimates.

Mr. Pollock said they were material to the issue.

Witness—The cost of a retaining wall along the whole length of the south of Inland Lot 1,381 and to support Mr. Belilios's ground as it was proposed to lay it out would be \$14,520; the cost of excavation would be \$4,417; total \$18,937. The cost of a wall along the whole length of the south side of lot

1,381, keeping the ground in its ordinary state would be \$8,871, and the excavation, \$4,417. A wall along the south side of Leigh and Orange's site and to support Mr. Belilios's new made ground would be \$12,196, and excavation at a 10-foot level above Kennedy Road, \$3,525. A wall along the same site but supporting the natural level of the ground would cost \$8,093, the cost of excavation being the same. A wall along the length of the arc line on the site agreed to on the 15th March and to support Mr. Belilios's ground as it was intended to lay it out would cost \$12,386, and excavation \$2,304. A wall on the same site but supporting ground at its natural level would cost \$7,846, the cost of excavation being the same. If the trustees were entitled to the whole lot it would be absolutely necessary to erect a retaining wall between that ground and the upper lots, assuming the level to be 10 feet above Kennedy Road, and the cost would be \$8,871, as given in one of the estimates. If Mr. Belilios had the whole of the three lots at his disposal only a retaining wall on the north of Macdonnell Road and a small one on the south-west portion would be necessary. If he had only the two upper lots he would also require a wall between the lots, assuming that no mutual arrangement was come to in regard to the cost of the walls.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis—I have not made out sketches or suggestions in respect of the two upper lots on the supposition that Mr. Belilios did not get the lower lot, nor have I myself worked out anything special. I am quite certain that Mr. Orange proposed at the meeting to put the synagogue on a 20 foot level above Kennedy Road so that people passing in a tram should not see into the building.

At the conclusion of Mr. Danby's evidence counsel on both sides addressed his Lordship on the point raised at the last hearing as to the right of Mr. Francis to call rebutting evidence.

Mr. Francis quoted cases in support of his argument and said that the right was one which the Court could exercise in its discretion.

Mr. Pollock, in reply, said that what Mr. Francis really wanted was to re-open his case, particularly on the meaning of the term "site of the synagogue" mentioned in the correspondence. Counsel submitted that the plaintiffs must have known that the term meant not the whole of lot 1,381, but only the part necessary for the erection of the synagogue. The solicitor and counsel for the plaintiffs must have asked what was the exact meaning of the words when they were first mentioned in Mr. Belilios's letter of the 8th March. From subsequent letters it was quite clear that the trustees and Mr. Belilios were positive as to the meaning of the term, and it could not be believed that counsel for the plaintiffs had not been properly instructed. In a letter written by Mr. Belilios it was clearly stated that he could not re-open the question after the decision arrived at after the long discussion in Mr. Danby's office—meaning of course the decision arrived at at the meeting of the 15th March. Counsel then said he would have to go into the question of whether there was a declaration of trust and of whether the plaintiffs had framed their action in the proper way.

His Lordship—How does that affect the question of giving evidence in reply?

Mr. Pollock contended that the question of declaration of trust went to the root of the whole matter. Counsel for the plaintiffs had attacked defendant's pleadings and had said, "you ought not merely to have denied, but to have pleaded something in regard to a portion of the lot." His (Mr. Pollock's) answer to that was, "No; you have chosen to frame your action absolutely and entirely upon the claim for a declaration of trust. You have not asked for specific performance of any agreement and I was perfectly entitled simply to deny altogether any declaration of trust." Counsel denied there was any declaration of trust as to one single foot of land, and therefore it was necessary for him to argue the question as to whether the action had been brought in the right form or not in order that he might meet his friend's contention. The point would take a considerable time to argue.

The Court then adjourned until 10.30 next morning.

His Lordship—I hope the case will be finished before the Sessions.

Mr. Pollock—I will do my best, my Lord.

Mr. Francis—There are only five days more.

His Lordship said that was the sixth day of the hearing and he thought the case had been drawn out somewhat.

14th December.

Mr. Pollock proceeded with his argument that it would have been wrong if the defendant had pleaded anything in regard to a portion of lot 1,381, because that would have opened one of the specific defences, which was that the plaintiffs misconceived entirely the remedy to which they were entitled and therefore the action ought to be dismissed on that ground.

Mr. Francis objected to his friend entering into that line of argument. However justified he was in framing his answer as he had framed it, and however correct he might be in his contention that the plaintiffs' case was entirely misconceived, it was quite irrelevant to the question now before his Lordship—that the plaintiffs were entitled to call rebutting evidence. If the counsel for the defence felt so strongly on the point he was arguing his duty was to have moved for the dismissal of the suit and shown that the plaintiffs' case proved no declaration of trust. Plaintiffs were simply suing on the ground that Mr. Bellios had declared himself a trustee of certain property for the Jewish community, and to support their case counsel had put in the whole of the documentary evidence upon which they relied. If that evidence did not support their case that there was a declaration of trust the defendant's counsel should have moved for the dismissal of the action. But whether he was right or wrong, it did not affect the question of the right of reply. The question was whether the plaintiffs had been taken by surprise and whether the issue defendant's counsel had raised was an issue the proof of which was or was not on him.

Mr. Pollock, in reply, said his answer was very plain and simple. He submitted he was entitled to bring out the whole of the surrounding circumstances in order to show the precise position of the parties. It would have been absurd and premature for him to argue the point as to whether Mr. Bellios had declared himself a trustee before the evidence was complete.

His Lordship decided that Mr. Pollock was entitled to show that the pleadings were correct.

A long argument on both sides was then heard, and in the end his Lordship said he would allow plaintiffs to give evidence in rebuttal.

The Court then adjourned.

THE PROTECTION OF CHINESE BRITISH SUBJECTS.

PROTEST BY THE STRAITS GOVERNOR.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Singapore, 7th December.

The Governor of the Straits Settlements wired to-day to the Minister protesting against the latter's decision in refusing protection of the Straits born Chinaman incarcerated in a native prison in China while travelling with a Straits passport. The Governor asks for the Chinaman's release.

THE GERMANS AT KIAOCHAU.

ATTACK ON THE VILLAGE BY CHINESE.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 7th December, 1897.

A number of disbanded Chinese soldiers attacked the village of Kiaochau. The Germans dispersed them and three Chinese were killed and some wounded.

GERMANY'S TERMS ACCEPTED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
SHANGHAI, 8th December.

To secure the evacuation of Kiaochau China accepts Germany's terms. The special privileges to be accorded to Germany in Shantung will follow the precedent laid down in the fifth article of the Gerard Convention.

EVACUATION OF KIAOCHAU.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 10th December.

Germany is evacuating Kiaochau and is to receive a coaling station in Fokien.

EVACUATION CONTRADICTED.

[REUTER.]

The statement of the *Times* re the evacuation of Kiaochau and the occupation of Samsah is positively denied at Berlin.

Reuter's Agency at Peking wires that China has yielded practically on all points and that the Germans refused to leave Kiaochau.

A proclamation in Chinese issued by the German Admiral has been handed to us (*N. C. Daily News*), a translation of which we give below:—

"Von Diederichs, Commander-in-chief of the Imperial German Eastern Fleet, hereby issues the following proclamation:—

"Be it known to all concerned that I have come in obedience to the commands of my sovereign, H. I. M. the German Emperor, who has instructed me to land at Kiaochau Bay at the head of my force, and seize the said Bay and all the islands and dependencies thereof. Having performed this duty it now behoves me to mark out the boundaries of the region held by me which are as follows:—

"(1) From a straight line drawn from the seashore to the eastern hill to a spot distant, at high water mark, 18 li from Kiaochou.

"(2) From thence a straight line drawn northwards to the Likin station at Ta-pot'eng; thence back of this to the meeting of the waters of the Kiaochou river and the Taku river.—

Note: *Tuku* means "Great Ancient"—*Translator*.

"(3) From thence eastwards to the seashore as far as an imaginary line cutting Laoshan Bay in the middle.

"(4) The eastern line commences from a northerly point to the midway point of Laoshan Bay, thence southwards as far as the shores of the island of Kuanti Miao, Tsalien island, etc.

Note—The colloquial term for Laoshan Bay is *Laowan* or *Lao Bay* which is also used in this proclamation.—*Translator*.

"(5) The southern line is drawn from Tsalien island to the southern point of Tiloshan island.

"(6) From the north it is drawn to the seashore on the western side where the two places meet.

"The above noted places and the area comprised within are to be held by the German forces, until the case of the murder of our German missionaries in Shantung be settled.

"In consideration of the above, therefore, I find it necessary to exhort you all, viz.: the inhabitants of Tsingtao island and dependencies thereof, to peaceably continue your several avocations and avoid listening to the words of the disreputable and rowdy classes to create disturbances. As a matter of fact Germany and China have always been friendly and at peace, and formerly when China was at war with Japan, Germany used her utmost efforts to rescue China from her dilemma. This was to prove our friendship as a neighbouring Power. We are now here not as enemies of China, hence you need not hesitate and entertain suspicions about us. Moreover, it will be the duty of the German officers to protect the law-abiding inhabitants of this place in order to preserve the peace. But if there be any discontented characters who shall endeavour to create disturbances, they shall surely be dealt with according to Chinese laws to the extreme extent (i.e., beheaded—*Translator*). Further, if any German subjects here be killed the murderers will be dealt with according to German military law, (i.e., shot—*Translator*). Hence I consider it my duty to earnestly exhort all to abstain from breaking the peace, and avoid resisting whatever the German authorities shall decide to do here. You should calculate the exigencies of the case, and you will see that you are too weak to resist. Not only will you find it to of no advantage to you, but you will find that you will have invited destruction upon yourselves.

"Furthermore, be it known that where German troops shall be encamped, Chinese officials will still be permitted to go on with their usual duties. But if in the future these Chinese officials should receive orders from their superiors which they should find beyond their

powers, they should communicate the circumstances to the German Governor, General Chu (?) or to Brigadier-General T'sai (?). As for the buying or selling of land hereafter, permission should first be obtained from the Governor to become legal. Let all obey. An important Proclamation."

14th day of November, 1897, (*Imperial German Reckoning*). 21st day, 11th moon, 23rd year of Kuang Hsu—(*Chinese Reckoning*)

[L. S.]

Shanghai, 8th December.

The *Loongmoon* arrived here from Kiaochau Bay yesterday, and she reported all quiet there. On the 3rd instant the Germans took possession of Kiaochau city. On the first summons to open the city gates the garrison declined to do so, but a volley fired in the air induced them to change their minds, and the German force entered the city and took peaceable possession. General Chang Kao-yuan was at first confined in one of the yamens at Tsingtao, but on account of some native soldiers having been seen prowling around at night and making signals to him, he was removed on board the flagship. The day before the *Loongmoon* left, however, General Chang was released with the honours due to his rank. Many of the people who left Tsingtao when the Germans first took possession have returned and are now employed by the latter in building and fitting up winter quarters for the troops. Yesterday wild rumours were floating about the Settlement that the Germans had had a conflict with Chinese troops, but the explanation is that some disbanded Chinese soldiers were found attacking a village with intention to plunder, and fire-arms had to be used to disperse them, some three or four being killed. The *Swatow* leaves here to-day with supplies for the German fleet.

A native who has recently returned overland from Kiaochou reports that the cause of General Chang Kao-yuan's retention by the Germans was owing to his refusal to issue a joint proclamation with the German Admiral calling upon the people of Kiaochou not to oppose the invaders. After being detained several days on board the German flagship, the Chinese General was released, an escort of German sailors accompanying him for about two miles beyond the sea shore of the Bay. The four soldiers who were detained with their General report that they were not badly treated but that their General was treated very harshly at first, and was shut up in a dark cabin. When, however, the Germans found that they could do nothing they allowed General Chang to go. Our informant also states that General Chang telegraphed to Peking, as soon as he was compelled to retreat from the Tsingtao fort asking for permission to oppose the Germans, but peremptory orders came telling him to do nothing to precipitate war with the Germans. Governor Li Ping-heng, who knew nothing of these orders, telegraphed to the Throne denouncing General Chang for cowardice and asking leave to execute him as an example to the rest of the army. General Chang, however, is a brave and capable officer, much beloved by his troops and the people of Kiaochou and T'engchou. He and his brigade, the Sungwu, fought well and bravely during the war in Liaotung against the Japanese. With reference to General Chang Kao-yuan, it will be remembered that our Newchwang correspondent spoke very highly of him and his troops during the late war and that his were the only troops who did not desert the colours. General Chang had quite a record for capability and courage during the reconquest of Chinese Turkestan from Yakub Beg of Kashgar, in the middle of the seventies. As a matter of fact General Chang may be said to be one of the very few Generals China has at present who may be relied on.—*N. C. Daily News*.

DEGRADATION OF THE GOVERNOR OF SHANTUNG.

A telegram has been received by the Canton officials from Peking to the effect that Li Ping-Hing, Governor of Shantung, who was lately informed of his promotion to be Viceroy of Szechuen, has been degraded.

H.E. Yu Luk, Tartar General in Fukien province, has been appointed to take Li Ping-Hing's place as Viceroy in Szechuen.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER "TANCRED"

13th December.

Messrs. Harling, Buschmann & Menzell inform us that the Norwegian steamer *Tancred*, on a voyage from Cebu to Yokohama, went ashore near Port Cockburn, Iriomoto Island, on or about the 30th ult. Further particulars are unknown.

15th December.

Messrs. Harling, Buschmann & Menzell, the agents, inform us that they have received the following telegram from the captain of the steamer *Tancred* from Nawa:—

"*Tancred* sunk Iriomoto; 6,600 bags sugar sent Nagasaki."

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS.

On Saturday, 11th Dec., His Excellency the presented medals to a number of gentlemen who rendered assistance in connection with the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee in Hongkong. The ceremony took place in the drawing room of Government House.

His EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, I have asked you to come here this morning in order that I might have the pleasure of presenting to you in person the medals which I have had struck off to commemorate the Jubilee which took place on 20th June last. Medals have been struck in Trinidad, Ceylon, and other colonies, and it occurred to me that Hongkong would not like to be left in the lurch in a matter of this sort. The object of these medals is to show that the Government appreciated most fully the services rendered by everyone connected with this Jubilee, and especially by the Committee. Of course, it has been somewhat difficult to decide who should have a gold medal and who should have a silver medal, but I trust in this case you will look at the medal not on account of its intrinsic value, but on account of the honour which is conveyed by it upon all who were connected with this auspicious event. I will read out the names of the recipients of the gold medals:—H.E. Major-General Black, C.B., who was responsible for the fine display of troops; Commodore Swinton C. Holland, A.D.C., who made the arrangements for the Naval display; Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., the Chairman of the Jubilee Committee; Hon. W. Chatham, who was Acting Director of Public Works; Mr. W. Danby, who assisted us so greatly in music; Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, to whom we are very much indebted as representing the Chinese community; Mr. Thomas Jackson, who was Treasurer; Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Secretary; Hon. F. H. May, who was responsible for the excellent way in which the Police did their work that day; Mr. H. L. Mody, who represented the Parsee community; Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey and Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, C.M.G., to whom we were very much indebted for the lighting and procession. The recipients of silver medals are—Hon. E. R. Bellios, C.M.G., Mr. W. G. Bentley, Lieutenant Buzzard, Mr. J. G. T. Buckle, Mr. G. Murray Bain, Mr. G. C. Cox, Mr. Chesney Duncan—all the newspapers gave us the greatest assistance possible, and for their interesting articles I am sure the whole community were very much indebted—Mr. A. Coxon, Mr. D. R. Crawford, Mr. N. J. Ede, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mr. D. Gillies, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. Ho A Mei, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Mr. V. Lawford, R.N., Mr. H. Ling, Mr. Ho Tung, Mr. Li Sing, Mr. A. P. Maco Ewen, Mr. H. M. Mehta, Mr. R. M. Moses, Lieut. Col. the O'Gorman, Mr. C. C. Platt, Capt. G. F. Phillips, A.D.C., Mr. A. G. Raymond, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. J. Thurnburn, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, and Hon. Wei A Yuk.

H.E. Major-General BLACK said—Your Excellency, we thank you for the kindly words that accompanied the presentation of these medals, and we prize these medals as a graceful and very liberal recognition of the part great or small which we played on that occasion of national rejoicing. But we think it would be an anomaly if the chief actor in that rejoicing were left without a medal, and we therefore hope that you will receive one of these medals, and we hope you will long continue to wear it as a golden link connecting you with your Eastern Governorship, and that you may in the far

distant future pass it down as an heirloom, so that your family in after time may be proud to think that one of their kith and kin bore such a distinguished part in one of the most romantic and soul stirring episodes of the Victorian era. (Loud Applause.)

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Your Excellency, on behalf of the members of the Jubilee Committee, I have to thank you very much for the decorations you have presented to us, and which I am sure we shall always value as pleasant mementoes of that most auspicious occasion. Allow me at the same time to assure your Excellency that our services were rendered most freely and most loyally without the least thought of reward or recognition beyond the knowledge of the success I am proud to say was achieved. (Applause.) For that success every one worked with a will, and to no one was it more conspicuously due than to your Excellency, without whose personal interest and energy such a gratifying result could not have been attained. (Applause.) The interesting celebration of the sixtieth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty will always be associated with your Excellency's administration, and will hereafter constitute a most pleasant link between yourself and this colony which no distance or time can sever. (Applause.)

His EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, I am extremely grateful for the kind words which H.E. the General and Mr. Chater have spoken with regard to the part I took on this auspicious occasion. I can only say that my name will be found upon these medals, and I esteem it a very great honour indeed to have been Governor of this interesting and prosperous colony during that event. I can assure you that the medals will, as both the General and Mr. Chater said, from a link in connecting me with this colony, over which I have now presided for over six years. (Applause.)

Refreshments were then served in the dining room, where His Excellency remarked that he had forgotten to mention in the course of his address that the Secretary of State for the Colonies had approved the wearing of the medals in this colony and he (the Governor) had specially requested that it be authorised elsewhere, so that all the recipients of the decoration could show wherever they went that they were members of the great federated British Empire.

A photograph of the company was afterwards taken.

With each medal there was also presented a letter signed by His Excellency the Governor enclosing a certificate of award, on vellum, reading as follows:—

1837-1897.

JUBILEE GOLD MEDAL.

Hongkong, 22nd June, 1897.

This is to certify that one Jubilee Gold (or silver, as the case may be) medal has been presented to ———— for services rendered in connection with the celebration in Hongkong of the Sixtieth Anniversary of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria's Reign.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

The medal is about the size of half-a-crown. On one side is a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Victoria surmounted by a crown and bearing the inscription "Victoria Regina et Imperatrix." On the reverse side there is the colony's coat of arms, together with the following inscription:—

HONGKONG.

SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G., GOVERNOR.
TO COMMEMORATE SIXTY YEARS OF
HER MAJESTY'S REIGN
1837—1897.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 1st December says:—The *Lady Furness* left Kutchinotsu on the 9th November for Singapore with a cargo of coal for the Borneo Company and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. The vessel is now overdue, and there are apprehensions that on her way down to Singapore she got into the typhoon that so badly knocked about the steamer *Siam* and other vessels, and has not succeeded in living through the storm. The *Lady Furness* left on the evening of the 9th, at the same time as the Norwegian steamer *Borg*, which has safely arrived here. The Agent of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Mr. Fujisa, wired a few days ago for news of the *Lady Furness*, and the reply was that none had been received.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR AND THE TUNG WA HOSPITAL.

On the morning of the 14th Dec. the members of the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital attended at Government House in order to be introduced to His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson.

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, I am very glad to meet you here to-day and I desire to express my satisfaction at the result of the election of new Directors of the Hospital for the ensuing year. Though there are some of you with whom I am not personally acquainted, I know that you are all gentlemen of position and influence among the large Chinese community of this colony. I am glad to see among you Mr. Fung Wa Cheun, who rendered such excellent services on the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee and whose intimate knowledge of English and whose acquaintance with European ideas and customs will be of great use to you and to the Government in dealing with the affairs of the Hospital. You are all aware that, ever since my arrival in Hongkong, I have taken a great interest in the Tung Wa Hospital and have tried to increase its usefulness by introducing into it very necessary reforms. I am pleased to learn that the Directors during the past year have co-operated with Dr. Thomson, whom I appointed as visiting surgeon to the Hospital, in effecting improvements, which have placed the Hospital in a more satisfactory condition than it has ever been before. For their exertions the Directors, during the past year, deserve the thanks of all those who are interested in the care of the indigent sick among the Chinese community. I trust the new Directors will not only follow the good example set by their predecessors but will press on rapidly the good work of reform. There is still room for improvement and I desire to call the attention of the new Directors to the following matters, which I trust they will deal with without delay. The Hospital is still without a steward. No Hospital can be kept in a really satisfactory condition without the services of such an officer, and I, therefore, desire you to appoint a steward as soon as you are able to secure a suitable person. The floors of all the six wards on the ground floor of the Hospital are paved with brick. This is not a satisfactory style of flooring; wood should be substituted. The Ko Fong wards still remaining are not worthy of the Hospital. They should all be removed with the exception of one row, which could be used for isolation wards. Instead of the Ko Fong wards, which should be removed, two blocks, each two storeys high, making four new wards, should be erected on the northern part of the site. The fire-places in some of the wards are not arranged in such a manner as to give sufficient heat. This should be rectified by abolishing the present fire-places and placing stoves in the middle of the wards. The water-carriage system should also be introduced into the Hospital. My attention has been called to the great mortality from fevers in the Tung Wa Hospital during the present year. I understand that formerly quinine was not used to any great extent in the treatment of fever patients, but that it has been used more frequently of late. I hope that you will make a point of seeing that a plentiful and regular use is made of this valuable drug, and I have instructed Dr. Thomson to furnish me with returns showing the extent to which quinine is used. The matters I have just mentioned require immediate attention and I trust to hear shortly that the new Directors have commenced their term of office by taking steps to have these improvements introduced. To carry them out money will be required. I trust the funds of the Hospital will be sufficient to cover the expense, but, if extra funds are necessary, I am sure that some of the many rich Chinese residents in Hongkong who have made or who are making comfortable fortunes in this colony, under the protection of the British flag, will come forward with subscriptions sufficient to meet the necessary expenditure, and thus earn for themselves a reputation for being men who rejoice in good works and whose charity extends to the poor and the sick. Gentlemen, I am very glad to have had the pleasure of meeting you. This is the last time we shall meet in this colony as I leave you on the 1st February next. I feel sure that under your

directorate the affairs of the Hospital will be carefully administered. Remember that "Progress" is the spirit of this age, and that those who try to act in opposition to that spirit are doomed to failure. The spirit of progress, so long absent from the Tung Wa Hospital, has at last commenced to show itself in that institution. It is your duty, gentlemen, to nourish that spirit into a healthy vitality in the interests of such of your countrymen in this colony as are too poor and too weak to care for themselves. In the discharge of that duty you can always rely on the encouragement and support of this Government. I wish you all good-bye and I can assure you that though I may be thousands of miles from Hongkong I shall never forget it, or fail to pray for the success and prosperity of the colony and of all its inhabitants.

MR. LIAO 'TSZ-SHAN, in reply, said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the retiring Directors I have to thank your Excellency for the kind words you have just spoken. We have been endeavouring during the tenure of our office to do our utmost for the public benefit, but I am afraid we have not done all that we ought to have done. I am glad, however, that the management is left in better hands. We beg to avail ourselves of this opportunity to thank Your Excellency and Mr. Lockhart for your assistance and kind treatment.

MR. FUNG WA CHEUN said—Your Excellency, on behalf of myself and the other members of the present Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital, I beg to thank your Excellency for condescending to receive us here to-day. We have listened with great interest to your Excellency's encouraging words, which have inspired us. As to your Excellency's instructions for the improvement of the Hospital, we will do our humble best to see that your desires are carried out in a proper manner. We are very sorry to hear that your Excellency is about to leave us. The Chinese in this colony have always found in you a very kind Governor. They will all very much regret your departure. We venture to express a hope that you may be long spared to enjoy health and prosperity. As to the allusion to myself, I felt very highly flattered by Your Excellency's kind remarks. If I have rendered any service to the colony, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to me, and could not have been done without the support and assistance of many friends. I shall always be only too glad to do everything in my power to help in any matter connected with furthering the welfare of the colony. Sir, we again thank you for the audience you have granted us.

HIS EXCELLENCY then thanked Mr. Liao Tsz-Shan and Mr. Fung Wa Cheun for their kind remarks. He stated that he felt sure his wishes regarding the Tung Wa Hospital would be duly and properly carried out. During the six years he had been Governor of Hongkong, he had always received the loyal support of the respectable and wealthy Chinese of this colony. His Excellency then concluded by requesting those present to drink a glass of wine and proposed as a toast, "Success to the Tung Wa Hospital and Prosperity to the Chinese Community."

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. The proceedings then concluded.

REVIEWS.

By *Stroke of Sword*. ANDREW BALFOUR. London: Methuen & Co. 1897.

A stirring romance, which will appeal alike to boys and men. The period is the time of Good Queen Bess and Sir Francis Drake, and much of the action is laid in the island of Trinidad. Jeremy Clephane, who is supposed to tell the tale, is the son of the dominie of Kirkcoun, and when he grows too old to be any longer a scholar in his father's school he takes up the position of assistant. It is not long, however, before he leaves home, and from that time his life is a succession of adventures, the number of people he kills being quite prodigious and his escapes almost miraculous. He is decoyed into joining a piratical craft and gets into trouble, but escaping from gaol he joins one of Sir Francis Drake's ships and sails for the West Indies, where he takes an active part in the rough and tumble work of the period, in which he always plays a manly part and appears to advantage. On his return he is welcomed as a hero and knighted

by the Queen. The tale is one of the most exciting we have read for a long time and we shall be glad to welcome any more of the same kind that Mr. Balfour may have to give us. Our review copy reaches us through Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Limited.

Here They are. More Stories by J. F. SULLIVAN. The Christmas Volume of Longman's Colonial Library. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1897.

MR. SULLIVAN'S book, which also reaches us through Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, is a collection of half-a-dozen fairy tales, full of quaint conceits, and just the thing for a Christmas-box. In the Land of the Givers-away the prevailing sin of the people was to give away everything they possessed, so much so that it had to be kept in check by severe penal laws. Into this strange land there wandered a greedy little boy and his sister, and their strange adventures there form very pleasant reading. "The Blue Thing with White Dots" is the tale of an animal out of a Noah's ark and a forlorn little beggar boy. The former becomes an idol in a heathen temple and the latter a celebrated discoverer and explorer, "so much so that the Royal Geographical Society had made quite a pet of him, and had given him food in a great hall on his return from each of his voyages; for in England, when one desires greatly to honour a celebrated man one always gives him food, whether he is hungry or not; and then makes him get up and talk so as to spoil his digestion." All the tales are amusing and so are the illustrations.

The People of Clopton. By GEORGE BARTRAM. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1897.

THIS is a dialect and poaching tale of the Midlands. The characters are cleverly drawn and the descriptions realistic, though the plot is not very exciting. What will our Scotch friends say to the following passage:—

All the Needhams have gone to the colonies now—and so have their equally stalwart and goodly cousins, the Panters. Shortly after I left Clopton for Clopton's good—a great readjustment took place in this part of the shires. The old Squire became cursed with a pushing steward—one of those practical, "men with a mission" who cause nearly all the mischief in the world. Mr. Edward Turnbull, not satisfied with having welded the cottagers' holdings into big farms, and driven that worthy race wholesale into the towns, commenced reforming the Squire's affairs by steadily swelling rents all round—acting, in short, on that blessed maxim, that "a man is entitled to all he can get." One by one the finest tenantry that ever trod the earth turned their backs on Clopton. The Squire was obstinate—he would not give in—and Turnbull, to save his credit, suggested an importation of Scotsmen. Thus gradually things worked to that pass that you shall scarcely find in Clopton at the present day a labourer able to carry a sack of corn—while the descendants of the jovial Anakim that peopled the lodges and granges in my youth are now wielding scythe and shears where the shadows fall southward at noon—and their fathers' places have been filled by hungry, cackling, cautious Northerners. And when even Sandy is compelled to throw up the task of rent-production—and perhaps we get John Chinaman in his place—still we may be comforted. The lords of the soil shall still have

Horse to ride, and hound to hallo,
Game to shoot, and fox to follow.

The Blind in China: A Criticism of Miss C. F. Gordon-Cumming's Advocacy of the Murray Non-Alphabetic Method of writing Chinese, with Additional Remarks. By Rev. W. CAMPBELL, F.R.G.S., English Presbyterian Mission, Formosa. Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama: Kelly and Walsh, Limited.

MR. CAMPBELL is a staunch advocate of the Braille system pure and simple and entirely disapproves of Mr. Murray's system of numeral notation. In the volume before us the correspondence that has taken place on the subject, minutes of the Missionary Conference and other bodies, and extracts from periodicals are printed, together with a preface of fourteen pages by Mr. Campbell setting out the bearings of the

controversy. From the material thus supplied those who have any knowledge of books for the blind and the requirements of the Chinese language will be able to draw their own conclusions.

THE INDIAN YARN TRADE.

THE CHINESE MERCHANTS ADVOCATE
REDUCED SHIPMENTS.

The following correspondence has been forwarded to us for publication:—

Hongkong, 7th December, 1897.

To Sir George Cotton, Kt., President, Bombay Millowners' Association, Bombay.

SIR,—At a meeting of the Chinese merchants dealing in Indian yarn held on the 30th ultimo, it was unanimously resolved, after fully considering the present position of the yarn trade in this market and in Shanghai in connection with the question of excessive and disproportionately heavy supplies that of late have been pouring in, and in connection with the positions of the country markets in relation to the question of the financial stringency prevailing all over the country, to send the following messages, dated the 1st and 6th instant respectively, advocating as a remedial measure against over-supply short hours by the spinnings affiliated to your Association:—

- 1.—Chinese merchants meeting unanimously advocate mills working short time. Excessive over-supply Hongkong Shanghai. Unsold 60,000 25,000 respectively interfering clearances. Recommend strongly above for trade interests.
- 2.—Advisable short time. Reply Hung Kee President.

The meeting was fully impressed with the necessity of advocating the measure of short hours to your Association as, owing almost to unprecedentedly heavy accumulations of over 60,000 bales unsold in stock here and over 25,000 bales in Shanghai over and above bargains to the extent of about 12,000 bales remaining uncleared at each of these two centres at a time when fluctuations in exchange have been intermittently severe and at a time when all tangible relief to the trade has been extinct owing to financial stringency heralded in by the scarcity of sycee prevailing all over the country, it was considered that the only remedy for relieving the present serious congestion lay in the measure advocated of working short hours. The meeting was painfully aware that even this measure might not have such an instantaneous and adequate effect as was desirable, inasmuch as with respect to this market it might be said that even if not a single bale should arrive, present stocks would be sufficient to last against all the exigencies of the country markets for some six months to come, and as regards the Northern market, when the curtailment of demand incident to the winter closure of the river ports already begun is taken into account, even the present unsold stock with bargains on spot would prove sufficient to last in the same manner as here. But it was held that the stemming of the torrent of shipments following curtailment of production might have beneficial effects on the markets all round, if not immediately, later on. Hence the advocacy.

The incubus of the aforesaid abnormal piles of stocks, taken by itself, is heavy enough to put the Indian yarn trade out of gear, but coupled therewith there has been palpably evident the last three months a severe stringency of money, a stringency which, though not felt very much at first under the gradual withdrawal of the Japanese yen, is getting intensified as time wears on, and now it has become very much patent that the country has been denuded very extensively not only of its yen currency but also of its sycee currency, and that, though the appreciation of the new British dollars in the place of Japanese yens is complete, their importation has not been equal to meet the displacement and to fulfil the requirements of the trade of this vast country, though the importation has been very much coupled of late by the coinage of Chinese dollars in most of the mints started of yore and of late in the principal provinces of China. In this connection it might be mentioned that at the present moment nearly ten million dollars remain locked up in these parts in Indian yarn, and as this fact very materially

adds to the stringency, it is a very serious question as to how long they will remain so to the detriment of the trade.

This stringency, combined with the abnormal, almost undreamt of, fluctuations experienced in exchange on India, particularly during the last quarter of the year under the overtures of the United States and French Government to the British Government for the rehabilitation of silver and under the revivification of the question of the re-opening of the India mints, has quite demoralized the two principal central markets as also the country markets surrounding these centres. Virtually the heavy stocks are unsaleable at the two centres, and the country markets, on account of the dreadful position into which the continued tightness of money has thrown them, as likewise on account of the probability, verging almost on the certainty, of prices receding under the present juncture well nigh 20 to 25 per cent., have had recourse to nothing but the waiting policy, and as the usual settlement time before the Chinese New Year falling on the 22nd January, 1898, is approaching, that policy goes without the slightest relaxation, nay, it is getting further intensified. The Chinese merchants apprehend that the present stocks of yarn and the present intense stringency of money are not likely to find reduction for some six months to come, and if heavy importations of the former are continued and no measures in the interests of the trade both on your side and here are adopted to check in some measure the influx in a country already flooded with stocks, the present evil will assume a shape that will be disastrous, possibly beyond recovery, to the spinners in India, and to the importers and dealers in China. It is for this momentous reason that they have ventured to advocate the adoption of the remedial measure of short hours for working the factories, and hence they have deemed it expedient and to the advantage of all concerned to wire this advocacy by above quoted telegrams. In conjunction with the factors stated above that have guided them to the advocacy in question, the counter-factors of the feasible importations of Japanese yarn in China under the present variation of exchange, as also the element of local manufactures likely to be gainingshortly in opposition to your industry and likely to increase in strength as factories under construction and under contemplation gain completion, have not been lost sight of, and due weight has been given to these factors in their considerations. Under the present overlaid juncture it was, however, held that these factors have no scope for some time to come to run in opposition.

In conclusion the Chinese merchants much regret that the solution of the exchange difficulty has again been put off by the reply of the British Government to the Conference held in London, and they also much regret to observe, under the continued instability of exchange, that the much petted idea inculcated by you on several occasions, first when the Indian mints were closed, and latterly at one of the meetings of your Association, that the trade will adjust itself to the exigencies of exchange, has undergone no such process of crystallization as was prophesied, but it has instead according to experience obtained here proved but a phantasma, and is likely to prove so again.—I am, sir, yours sincerely,

HUNG KEE.

President of the meeting of Chinese merchants dealing in Indian yarn.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1897.

To Sir George Cotton, Kt., President Bombay Millowners' Association, Bombay.

SIR.—Since addressing you on the 7th instant I have received from your Association in reply to the messages of the Chinese merchants the following wire:—

"Present position prohibits adoption short time, improving local trade owing big grain crops points to reduced yarn shipments."

The Chinese merchants are of opinion that unless shipments are materially curtailed and present stocks allowed to be worked out the present position of the yarn trade in these parts will not find a turn for the better.—I am, sir, yours faithfully.

HUNG KEE.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE NAVY LEAGUE?

"Beyond paying my \$5 a year there is nothing I could do. I have no vote in England. I quite approve of the aims of the Navy League, but how can I, a British subject resident in Hongkong, impress my convictions and desires on those who rule the Empire?"

Not by refusing your \$5 to the only Association that affords you an opportunity of asserting your convictions, of making public profession of the faith that is in you, of assisting—however infinitesimally—still of assisting, in the strengthening and preservation of that Empire in which your all is embarked.

Amongst the 93 members and 20 associates mentioned as on the roll of the local branch of the League, the numbers who possess votes for property in Park Lane or elsewhere in the United Kingdom are probably limited. Still, those 113 men evidently consider that the Navy League affords them the means of contributing their quota towards the strengthening and maintenance of that Empire that all thinking British subjects desire.

The Central Committee of the Navy League must have been aware when issuing their manifesto of the aims of the League, and making request that branches should be formed abroad, that the number of votes at home thus directly secured from colonists would be few. What the Committee had, however, in view was the plebiscite to be thereby obtained from British subjects the whole world over. By the address referred to it appears that 462 British subjects in Hongkong (exclusive of Government servants) signed a protest against any reduction of the Navy Estimates this year. Did they think in attaching their signatures to that protest that they were doing what was absolutely futile? They had no votes in England. If on the other hand they thought that however microscopic was that aid, still their names actually did assist the matter in hand, and which, by appending their signatures to, they presumably held to be a good and worthy object, would it not be well if the 400 signatories not Leaguers would now come forward to join and actively support that League of which they approve?—at present only passively. The Navy League at home made good use of those petitions, impressing on the British public the unanimity of the British residents of Hongkong. In this article it is assumed that a travelled, reading, intelligent middle class public like ours of Hongkong understands the objects and comprehends the needs of the Navy League. Like most other needs it includes cash.

The subscription for a member in England is fixed at one guinea per annum, for which he receives the League Journal, and is at liberty to assist the League to any extent he desires and in any way of which he may be capable. One quarter of this, 5/3, is remitted to the Central Committee for the great task of educating our rulers—the Democracy—by lectures, with broadsheets, in history and its lessons, in any and all ways feasible. In Hongkong after the first year we concluded that the subscription was unnecessarily high, our expenses being small, so with the consent and approval of the Executive in London, the subscription was fixed at \$5.00, 5/3 being still remitted annually for each member, and the fee for associates was put at \$2.00 per annum. 2/6 a year (one quarter of the annual subscription at home) has to be remitted for each associate—who enjoy the same privileges as members, viz: receiving the journal, and full liberty to labour for the League to any extent. That there are any British subjects resident in Hongkong who have absolutely no connection, communication, or correspondence with the United Kingdom seems scarcely possible, so though we may have no vote, still we may be the means of sowing the good seed. Through all the larger (not busier) but more varied world of Great Britain it may well be that our League and its aims have not percolated, so a letter or newspaper to some old friend or relation, whether in the Highlands of Scotland, the wilds of Connemara, or perchance to the wilderness of London, may be the means of awakening the interest of some voter or or voters. The familiar metaphor of the ever

widening circles travelling outwards from a stone cast into water applies peculiarly to our League, that has increased with gratifying rapidity in other parts of the world. It was with pardonable pride that the Central Committee presented resolutions deprecating the reduction of the Navy Estimates from British possessions as widely apart as Toronto, the Cape of Good Hope, and Hongkong.

The second of the annual report of the local branch of the League referred to the inaction that overtook most Eastern Associations. We, however, are not purely Eastern. We are a world-wide Association. Eastern Associations have not the same stimulus of emulation. It should be the business of the committee to endeavour to instil a healthy spirit of rivalry into the Hongkong branch of the Navy League, and as a first effort endeavours should be made to induce the 400 signatories to join the Navy League. The committee would then have a wider field to draw from for lecturers, letter writers, &c., than at present.

If the 400 will come forward and join the League, however limited the numbers amongst them may be that possess the necessary qualifications in Park Lane for directly guiding the destinies of the Empire, still they can rest assured that each 5/3 is being used wisely and honestly to secure guarantees that Britain's sovereignty of the seas shall be unquestionable, that the ever widening concentric rings from similar insignificant pebbles are spreading over the earth till all British men are comprehended in one great

LEAGUE.

THE TRIAD SOCIETY CASE.

The thirty-two men charged with unlawfully attending a meeting of a Triad Society were again brought before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Police Magistrate, on 13th December.

Mr. H. L. Dennys (Crown Solicitor) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. E. J. Grist for the defence.

Mr. Dennys informed His Worship that it was only on Saturday afternoon that he received instructions to conduct the case on behalf of the Crown. He had spent a considerable amount of time in trying to master the intricacies of the case. In his opinion all the documents found, including the book, should be properly translated.

Detective Inspector Hanson was then called and stated:—At 12.30 a.m. on the 5th instant I went to the second floor of No. 4, Yee On Lane in company with the Captain Superintendent of Police and a number constables. I heard the last witness knocking at the trap door of the second floor as I entered the house. He was not immediately admitted, but had to make two replies to questions put from inside. His first answer was, "Hung Ying," and the second, "Li Ching Cheung." The door was then opened and we all entered. We shut the trap door behind us and put a constable in charge of it. I have heard the evidence given by the other witnesses, and the account given by the last witness concerning the things found is quite correct. I saw the second defendant in the position described by the last witness teaching two others how to wear their queues. There were several men squatting on the floor in three rows and some of them had their jackets open at the breast, but as soon as they saw me they buttoned them up. I have been in the Police Force twenty-three years. I have heard mention of the Fuk Yu Hing. It is a Society organised not in the interests of the peace or good order, but affording an asylum for persons guilty of crime or wanted by the police, and for all such like purposes. I can mention instances. Last year I found the mutilated body of a Chinaman near Stonecutter's Island. Your Worship made an enquiry into the matter and two arrests were made. The prisoners were committed for trial. I made enquiries at the time about the Fuk Yee Hing and Man On Triad Societies. I learnt that the fight which resulted in the death of the Chinaman was the return fight for one which took place between the Fuk Yee Hing and Man On Societies some time previous. There are documents which I found relating to the objects for which the Society exists. They are five in number, including the

book. They are all that I am aware of relating to the objects of the Society, but there are other documents in connection with them showing that the Fuk Yee Hing is a Triad Society. I am able to swear to these, from my own knowledge of Chinese characters and from what I have learnt, as being documents of the Triad Society. I have also heard about the "three-foot-six," which is a peculiar shaped pole used by the Society. The one which I produce in Court was found by me in the house, and it answers in every respect to the descriptions given me about the "three-foot-six." I also found on the second defendant's person a key which opened the box containing all these documents. I likewise produced a piece of paper, which I am given to understand is not burnt in any other sacrificial worship but that of this Society. I may mention that I put the question, "Who are candidates to night?" in Chinese to all the men, and two of them answered that they were. I took them all to the station.

At this point the case was further remanded till next Tuesday, at 11 a.m., bail being allowed for the first and second defendants in one surety of \$250 each and for the others one surety of \$10 each.

SINGULAR ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A CHINESE CONSTABLE.

On the 5th instant a Chinese woman was arrested by a constable on a charge of having kidnapped a child. She appeared before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on 8th Dec., and on being asked what she had to say, she told a story which contained a charge against the constable so serious in nature that the Magistrate thought it right to remand the case for a week to further investigate the matter. The result was that the constable in question, No. 181, was arrested on 9th December and brought before the Magistrate charged with having committed a robbery in the Hoi Ping and Yeng Ping districts. The case was remanded for a week in order that the requisition from the Chinese Authorities for the prisoner's rendition might be sent. The story told by the woman was that some time in the beginning of this year the constable got himself implicated in a gang robbery which took place in the Hoi Ping district in which they were living. He had subsequently gone to her and begged her to save him, as a reward of \$300 was offered by the Chinese authorities for his capture. She was a relative of his and the adopted mother of his son. She took him to Canton, and on the 27th March they went to Macao, where they stayed only two days. They then came on to Hongkong. She had to pawn several articles of clothing after arrival here to let him have some money. She soon obtained a situation as a servant in a house at Gough Street, while the man lived in a coolie house near the Tung Hing Theatre. He subsequently succeeded, through some friend's aid, to get into the Police Force. She had been several times to see him and had frequently asked him to let her have some money to redeem the clothing she had pawned for his support. He had all along refused to give her anything, so on the 1st December, which was pay day at the Station, she again begged some for money, but he remained obdurate in his determination not to pay her. She then got angry and in the presence of several other constables upbraided him for his ingratitude, and finally told everything concerning the history and real identity of the constable. She did not see him again till the 5th instant, when she met him in Gough Street. He told her that she would not get any money from him and that she would have to take care of herself since she had chosen to relate his history and crime to his comrades. She replied that she had nothing to fear from him so long as she remained in Hongkong, and upon that he struck her several blows with his hands and also with his truncheon. She struggled with him for a time, but in the end he arrested her and took her to the station, where he made the charge against her of having kidnapped a child. The Inspector on duty told him that there was no evidence against her, but he said he could procure witnesses and on the day following, the 6th instant, he got three persons to give evidence against her on the trumped up charge.

THEFT OF GOLD.

Jarsim Bena, an Indian trader, was yesterday charged with stealing a piece of gold of the value of \$85 from a shop in Stanley Street. Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the defence.

The complainant, a goldsmith in Stanley Street, said—On the 9th instant at about 2.30 p.m. the defendant came to my shop and said he wished to buy some gold leaf. I told him I had none for sale, but that I could let him have other kinds of gold. I then took from the drawer of my work table a thin slip of gold about seven inches (Chinese) long and one inch wide. I showed it to him and asked if he would buy it. He took the slip and crumpling it in his hand threw it back into the drawer. He then drew from a pocket a roll of bank notes and counted several of them into the drawer over the piece of gold. He then asked me to get him some leaves with the money. I refused to do so, and picking up the notes, he left the shop. Shortly after, I had occasion to look into the drawer and found the piece of gold missing. When the defendant came to my shop he gave me to understand that he was a passenger on board one of the steamers bound for Japan. I remembered this at the time and instantly sent several of my men to look for him on board the steamers leaving for Japan, but they failed to get any information about him. I then reported the matter to the Police. The defendant must have taken the piece of gold when he withdrew the bank notes from the drawer. The value of the gold is \$85.

A silversmith in the Hang Cheong shop, Stannton Street, stated—At 4 p.m. on the 9th instant the defendant came to my shop and showed me a lump of gold which he asked me to melt down into two pieces. I did as requested and received twenty cents for the work. The gold weighed one tael and seven mace and had the appearance of having been originally a thin slip, but had been subsequently folded up and hammered down.

Tofala Reuben Moses gave evidence to the effect that the defendant lived in the same house as herself. At about noon one day, he showed her two nuggets and asked her to take them to a goldsmith to ascertain their value. He said he had bought them for \$20 and intended them for a pair of earrings for his daughter. She did as he bade her, and was told that they were worth \$55.

At this point the case was remanded till Friday, the 17th instant, at 11 a.m.

NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The third general meeting of the new Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ltd., was held on 8th Dec. at the Company's Offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central. Mr. Hart Beck presided and there were also present—Messrs. C. Ewins, H. Humphreys, S. Rustonjee, A. P. Nobbs, J. S. Hagen, Lau Shan, A. H. Mancell, G. H. Potts, W. D. Sutton, E. George, J. H. Cox, and Esmail.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for several days I will with your permission adopt the usual course and take them as read. With regard to our working it was deemed advisable in January last to sink the Queen Mine shaft at least another 100 feet; this has been done and we are now sinking an additional 50 feet and expect to finish this by the latter end of January, when drives will then be made to intercept the reef at various levels. Our latest advices received by wire on the 3rd inst. inform us that the Queen shaft has reached a depth of 333 feet and that our mining manager thinks the mine a good prospect, also that the men working on the Balmoral Mine—whom I may explain are some of our own and working on tribute—are confident of success at the Queen's new or prospecting shaft; they have cross cut the lode but not yet the reef, and driving is being continued along the lode for fresh block of stone. With regard to the Queen Mine we have adopted the same policy which has been pursued with success by our neighbours at the Eureka Mine, and instead of driving at an early stage have thought it advisable to sink deeper and then make our drives at the different level

simultaneously. In deciding on this course we were guided by the fact that the surface of the Queen Mine is on considerable higher ground than the Eureka, and therefore to get to the level at which we hope to find the richer quartz it is necessary to sink deeper to get into the same strata of country. As it is necessary according to the mining regulations to do some work on the Balmoral mine we have made an arrangement with some men working on tribute in conjunction with our own men to do certain work there, and as I have told you they are confident of success. There is no doubt, gentlemen, that the Balmoral Mine is a very valuable part of our property, but as most of you are aware it is a very expensive mine to develop, and we do not think we should be justified with our limited capital in expending more on it at present than is absolutely necessary. If the opinion of the miners now working on it is verified by results we should have little trouble in selling this portion of our property for a large sum at home, for we must bear in mind that to develop this particular mine, which if developed might possibly turn out to be the richest of our possessions, a great deal of money is necessary on account of the hardness of the country. I must say I am somewhat disappointed with the Queen new prospecting shaft; we thought at one time that we were close to the reef, but we now find that although we have cut the lode which may be termed the vein which gives indication of the proximity of the reef we have not yet struck the reef; as I previously mentioned we are now driving along the lode and may at any time strike the main reef. On reference to the Dr. side of our working account you will see an amount of \$9,107.27 under the heading of Olivers Battery, and I think a little explanation of this item is necessary. An agreement was made dated the 23rd August, 1895, by your then representative in Australia to lease the Olivers Battery from the owners at a monthly rental, and there is no doubt that if our stone had kept up to its average this arrangement would have been a profitable one, but as you are aware we had to discontinue crushing, and although we have received sundry amounts by crushing for other mines, the agreement has on the whole been a loss to us. I do not think, gentlemen, that anyone can blame those who were responsible for this arrangement considering the fact that it was the only available battery and would apparently be required for a considerable period. With regard to funds, I am pleased to say that there does not appear to be any need of anxiety on this subject. We should by the end of January be near our goal, and as we have a substantial amount in hand and in my opinion a very valuable asset in Olivers A shares which are shown in your balance sheet as representing only \$10,000 instead of the market quotation, which would make them worth \$40,000, I confidently expect that success will reward our perseverance. I may add, gentlemen, that it is my intention in the early part of next year to pay a visit to our property, and I trust that before I return you may have received news of the success of our mines. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be pleased to answer any question to the best of my ability that any shareholders would like to put.

Mr. GEORG—Can you tell us how long this agreement with Olivers Battery is running; how long is it in force?

The CHAIRMAN—The agreement was made, I think I told you, in 1895; the agreement expired in March last.

No further questions were asked and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. RUSTOMJEE seconded.

Mr. ESMAIL proposed and Mr. NOBBS seconded that Mr. J. H. Cox be re-appointed auditor for the ensuing year.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Menmuir*—

Mount Macdonald, 9th November, 1897.

I have the honour to report that up to date the Queen main shaft has been sunk a total

depth of 328 feet, leaving 27 feet yet to be sunk in order to open out at the required depths.

Queen Prospecting Shaft—Driving north and south in lode channel, country highly mineralized; have driven north 21 feet, south 13 feet; nothing payable met with.

New Balmoral Mine—Nothing of importance to report. One party of tributors in fair gold, all the others have stopped work.

Battery—The contractor, after working a few days, decided to abandon the contract and forfeit his deposit, for the price was much too low. The next tender has been accepted and work has been resumed. The price is very reasonable, but a good party of men have taken the job and no doubt they will carry it out satisfactorily.

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Menmuir*—

Mount Macdonald, 9th November, 1897.

I have the honour to report that work in connection with the above mines is progressing satisfactorily.

Eureka Mine.—Main shaft sunk 84 feet below 200 feet level, securely timbered and divided 72 feet below said level. Water during past fortnight has been heavier than usual, owing to a floor having been cut in sinking, but it is easing off again.

Mining Tenement 18.—Drive from shaft on this portion extended 20 feet in promising looking country.

G. I. 105.—Continuing underlay shaft on reef of usual grade and size. Have a large quantity of stone ready to send to battery.

Freehold Battery.—Good progress is being made with the erection of new battery and we expect to start crushing in two or three days.

RAUB.

The following is the Acting Mining Manager's Report for the four weeks ending on 18th November, 1897.

Raub Hole 220 feet Level.—The main west crosscut has been extended 45 feet during the month making a total distance from the shaft of 373 feet. We have passed through several small leaders and bunches of quartz, none of which appear to carry gold. These of course can be further tested at any future time.

The Drive North on the lode formation has been extended 18 feet making the total distance from the crosscut 266 feet. The ore in the face continues small being only about 4 inches and no gold can be seen in it.

Stopes.—In the stopes going south from the No. 2 winze the ore chute is about worked out to the intermediate level, the ore still to be worked being only a few inches thick and of low grade. In the stopes going north from the winze the lode will average 15 in. thick and carries good gold. This stope is also about worked out to the intermediate level.

Bukit Komar 140 ft. level. North Drive.—The lode in the face has increased in size, being now about 7 ft. thick. It is, however, very much jumbled up and mixed with mullock but carries good gold. This end of the mine at present looks better than it has for over the last 12 months. The drive has been extended 34 ft., making the total distance from the crosscut 552 ft.

West Leader.—This still continues to carry fair gold and turns out a considerable amount of crushing stuff. I have opened out west and driven 10 ft. on another bunch of ore. It is about 2½ ft. thick and carries fair gold.

Winze No. 1 North.—This is now sunk a total depth of 28 ft., all the way in solid ore, some of which carries very good gold. I do not know the size of the lode but the winze, which is 6 ft. by 4 ft., is in solid ore all the way down.

South Drive.—I am very pleased to state, as I anticipated in my last report, that the lode has made again in the soft country. It is still small, being only 1½ in. thick but appears to be making larger as we drive on it. As yet no gold has been seen in it, but it is heavily mineralized, which in this mine is a favourable indication. The lode made on the footwall (west) side of the drive and is nice solid stone.

This drive has been extended 30 ft. making the total distance from the crosscut 738 ft.

Prospecting Crosscut East has been extended 15 ft. making the total distance 83 ft. This drive is still in quartz leaders and nice soft country. I have stopped this for the present as I want the miners to push on the South drive where the lode has made again. I have driven 12 ft. south on the ore cut in this crosscut. The ore still continues in the face but is very small. I have stopped this also for the present.

West Crosscut.—I have started to crosscut west from the south end main level. We are now in 12 ft. and have cut a small bunch of ore about 12 in. thick. I will extend this a few feet further and, should we not cut anything, stop it.

No. 4 Air Shaft.—This has holed through to the No. 1 leading stope at a total depth of 170 ft. from the surface. But breaking through into the stopes we passed through the lode which is about 12 ft. thick of solid ore carrying nice gold. This will enable us to resume work in the No. 1 stope which we will now be able to work to advantage.

No. 2 Stope.—The lode has increased in size and is now about 12 ft. wide of solid ore which carries fair gold.

No. 3 Stope.—The lode still continues about 7 in. wide of nice solid ore in which good gold can be freely seen. The lode ought to get larger as we go south on it.

No. 4 Stope.—There is no change here; the lode continues about 5 in. wide of fairly good ore. As we are now about in to some very bad ground where we had a run last year, we will not be able to extend this stope at present but come back and take another stope off before attempting to stope the bad ground.

No. 2 Level South Drive.—There is no change whatever in this drive; the lode still continues about 12 in. wide. The drive has been extended a further distance of 33 ft. making the total distance south from the crosscut 258 ft.

North Drive.—This drive is now in a total distance north from the crosscut of 189 ft. The lode continues about 7 ft. thick of solid ore in which a little gold can be seen.

Bukit Jellis.—This shaft has been sunk and timbered 25 ft. during the month. It is now a total depth of 123 ft. Good progress is being made with the sinking as the water is easily kept down. Our greatest trouble is to get away the mullock, which has all to be done with manual labour. This will make progress slower the deeper we go.

Battery.—This has been kept steadily going during the month. On Monday, 8th inst., a general clean up took place for the 9 weeks' work when 2,453 tons of ore yielded 1,752 ozs. 16 dwts. smelted gold, being an average of about 14 dwts. 7 grs. per ton. This is an improvement on our last crushing which I have every reason to expect will be kept up if not improved upon in the future. The following are the particulars of the ore crushed:—

Bukit Komar	2,317½ tons
Raub Hole	135½ "
	2,453 tons.

Crushing was resumed at 7 p.m. the same evening and has continued steadily since.

Electric Installation.—The weather has not been at all favourable for outdoor work but appears to have taken up during the week. This work is well in hand; we have contractors at work on pipe and flume line, excavating power station, making road from Simpam Gap to Power Station and also making road from Simpam to Tras. When this road is completed it will be of great assistance to us in getting stores, machinery, and sawn timber on to the ground and considerably reduce our cost of transport. The heavy rains we had at the beginning of the month have caused a lot of sickness amongst the coolies. They are well housed and I hope that now the weather is better the health of the camp will improve.

GILBERT B. WHYTE.

We learn from Kiukiang that the comprador of one of the foreign honghs there has disappeared. It was reported that his defalcations amount to something between 37,000 and 50,000 taels. He is a young man, and has succeeded so far in evading the search that is being made for him.—*N. C. Daily News*.

ANNUAL REGATTA MEETING.

FIRST DAY, THURSDAY, 9TH DECEMBER.

The annual regatta held in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club was commenced on Thursday. The day was an ideal one for both the rowing boats and the yachts, the temperature being pleasantly warm and the wind just sufficiently strong to temper the heat of the sun and fill the sails. The German mail steamer *Hohenzollern* was again set apart as the flagship and quite a large number of people assembled on board to watch the progress of the various events and to listen to the Band of the Hongkong Regiment, which was in attendance during the afternoon. The sport was most enjoyable. The two principal events were the Chairman's Cup and the Ladies' Prize. The former was won by the crew stroked by, Alves, and there can be no question that they thoroughly deserved their victory. It was very unfortunate that owing to an oar snapping just on the point of starting Sanders's crew were unable to take part in the race. The Ladies' Prize, as usual, evoked very great interest. Three crews entered and R. F. Lammert again had the pleasure of stroking his crew to victory. It will be remembered that he won this event last year and therefore he and his men came in for an extra ovation at the finish. Miss B. Jackson presented the prize or board the flagship and warmly congratulated the winners. Cheers were given for the ladies of Hongkong and for the winning crew and Lammert then presented Miss Jackson with a handsome bouquet. Thursday's proceedings were carried out in a manner highly creditable to all the officials, the consequence being that there was not a single hitch of any kind. A small "man-of-war" created considerable amusement. This vessel was a sort of pocket edition of H.M.S. *Victory*, and as it flitted about here and there under sail it presented quite a unique appearance. Those spectators who returned by the *Fame* had a bit of excitement during the journey. The *Fame* had slowed down some distance from the wharf when she was run into by a Chinese steam launch, but fortunately no damage was done beyond smashing the stem of the launch and scraping some paint off the *Fame*.

The following is a list of the officials:—

President:—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G.

Stewards:—His Excellency Admiral Sir Alex. Buller, K.C.B., His Excellency Major-General Black, C.B., Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Hon. E. R. Belillios, C.M.G., D. E. Brown, His Honour Sir John Carrington, Kt., C.M.G., Colonel Fraser, R.A., Lieut.-Col. C. S. Gordon, W.Y.R., D. Gillies, Commodore Holland, R.N., A.D.C., Rounseville Wildman, T. Jackson, J. H. Lewis, L. Von Löper, Major Lindley, R.E., A. P. MacEwen, St. C. Michaelson, E. W. Mitchell, R. M. Moses, H. N. Mody, Jose de Navarro, Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G., W. H. Ray, Major Retallick, H.K.R., A. G. Romano, A. Ross, H. A. Ritchie, Hon. Commander R. Murray Ramsey, R.N., N. A. Siebs, Herbert Smith, Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C. A. Tomes, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. H. E. Wodehouse.

Committee:—Com. W. C. H. Hastings, R.N. (Chairman), Mr. E. Bischoff, G. A. Caldwell, R. F. Lammert, R. K. Leigh, W. Armstrong, A. Denison, G. L. Duncan, T. H. Reid, M. A. A. Souza, W. H. Potts (Hon. Treasurer), W. Machell (Acting Hon. Secretary).

Judges of the Rowing Races.—Messrs. R. K. Leigh, and Hon. Com. W. C. H. Hastings, R.N.

Umpires and Starters.—Rowing—Starter, W. H. Potts; Umpire, Mr. C. H. Thompson. Yachts—Mr. G. C. Anderson. Open Sailing. Boats—Mr. F. D. Goddard.

Judge of the Sailing Races.—Hon. Com. W. C. H. Hastings, R.N.

Time-keeper—Mr. T. F. Hough. LIGHT GIGS; open to the Chinese crews of the same hong or office, regiment, corps, department, or ship. Boats must carry a European coxswain. Boats to be passed by the Committee. Distance, one mile. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Post entry.

Majorie (Victor Emanuel) 6 oars 1
Joan (Victor Emanuel) 6 oars 2

The steady and strong pulling of both boats indicated that the crews had received exceptionally good training and as they passed the various vessels and torpedo depot cheers were raised. Joan was on the inside, but she lagged somewhat behind all through. It was a good struggle, though, Marjorie winning by a length. CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP; for four oars. Cup to be held by the winning crew for one year; but to remain the property of the Club. Distance, one mile and a half. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"LEEK."

Station No. 4.—White.

Bow, L. A. Rose	9st.	0lbs.
No. 2, E. Thonert	11st.	2lbs.
No. 3, W. Armstrong	12st.	5lbs.
Stroke, A. A. Alves	10st.	7lbs.
Cox, F. W. White	9st.	0lb.

"THISTLE."

Station No. 5.—Black, pink sash.

Bow, A. E. Alves	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, G. H. Plotts	12st.	3lbs.
No. 3, G. Mollison	12st.	4lbs.
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	11st.	2lbs.
Cox, E. Grant Smith	9st.	0lb.

"ROSE."

Station No. 1.—White and Black.

Bow, G. L. Duncan	10st.	6lbs.
No. 2, G. C. Hayward	11st.	6lbs.
No. 3, G. Wilson	12st.	11lbs.
Stroke, J. M. Henderson	11st.	9lbs.
Cox, J. M. E. de Carvalho	9st.	0lb.

"SHAMROCK."

Station No. 2.—White.

Bow, T. Meek	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, A. Brooke-Smith	12st.	5lbs.
No. 3, E. Bischoff	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, F. Lammert	10st.	10lbs.
Cox, F. H. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"KORNBLOME."

Station No. 3.—Blue.

Bow, E. E. Deacon	10st.	7lbs.
No. 2, G. R. Stevens	11st.	11lbs.
No. 3, Albert Ellis	10st.	10lbs.
Stroke, E. D. Sanders	12st.	10lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

The boats were in a good line when the starter gave the order to fire the gun. There was a miss-fire, however, and when the second cartridge was fired Sanders's boat waited behind and the other four boats were stopped after going a length or so. It was thought that the delay in getting the Kornblume away was due to a false start, but it turned out that Sanders had broken an oar. He therefore had to retire from the race and a fresh start was made. Alves and Lammert quickly got an advantage of the other two boats, which at no period had any chance of winning; the race all through being confined to Alves and Lammert. They pulled very well, Alves being the superior, and when nearing the brickbat factory he was leading by a couple of lengths. Lammert's course was straggling and this materially affected his chance of success. All through Alves's crew pulled very cleanly, while towards the last Lammert's men got shaky, their strokes being very short. At one time they made a strong effort to overtake Alves, and but for the shortness of their strokes their defeat would not have been so decisive. Alves won with comparatively ease by two lengths. Time—10 mins. 5½ secs.

LIGHT GIGS; open to European Non-Commissioned Officers and men of any Regiment or Corps of the Garrison or to European crews of any of H.M. vessels or to European members of the Police Force; entrance, \$1; distance, one mile; boats to be approved of by the Committee; time allowance, 8 seconds per oar; four boats must start for two prizes; 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10.

Boats.	Names	Oars
Royal Engineers	Victoria	6 1
R.E. Centurion		2
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 2)	Joan	— 3
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 1)	Marjorie	— 0
West York Regiment		6 0
Royal Artillery		0

The R.A. boat had the inside course, but before half the journey had been traversed they had to give up, having broken an oar. The No. Victor Emanuel went out of her course, but she nevertheless made a good show with the Royal Engineers, who obtained the lead, and the Centurion and West Yorkshire Regiment boats. The Engineers were clearly the best

men and when the wharf had been reached they were leading by two lengths from the Centurion. The W.Y.R. then gave up the race, which resulted in a win for the Engineers by four and a half lengths. Time—6 mins. 47 secs.

SNAKE BOATS; open to Chinese snake boats.

Distance, one mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Eight boats to start for two prizes.

The snake boats did not put in appearance at the proper time and the race did not come off until late in the afternoon. The finish was very amusing. No. 5 boat won and No. 6 would have been second but for the fact that they gave up, being under the impression that all was over with them. No. 2 boat crept up and secured second position.

COPPER PUNTS; go as you please; distance arranged; 1st prize, \$7; 2nd prize, \$3; 3rd prize, \$2. Five boats to start for three prizes.

According to the rules the copper punts were to go as they pleased. They did not muster at the starting point, so perhaps it pleased them to go elsewhere. The horizon was scanned and as they could not be seen the race was declared off.

LADIES' PRIZE; Presented by the ladies of Hongkong; for four oars; distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"ROSE."

Station No. 2.—Black, pink sash.

Bow, L. A. Rose	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, F. Lammert	10st.	10lbs.
No. 3, W. Armstrong	12st.	5lbs.
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	11st.	2lbs.
Cox, G. A. Caldwell	9st.	0lb.

"KORNBLOME."

Station No. 1.—Blue.

Bow, E. Thonert	11st.	2lbs.
No. 2, G. C. Hayward	11st.	6lbs.
No. 3, E. Bischoff	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, E. D. Sanders	12st.	10lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"THISTLE."

Station No. 3.—Red and white.

Bow, A. E. Alves	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, A. A. Alves	10st.	7lbs.
No. 3, G. Wilson	12st.	11lbs.
Stroke, J. M. Henderson	11st.	9lbs.
Cox, J. M. E. de Carvalho	9st.	0lb.

The start was not a particularly good one, Henderson getting the benefit of a slight lead. He and Lammert got away a length and a half from Sanders. Henderson had gained a lead of a length on passing the torpedo depot, but Lammert pulled up well and kept an exceedingly good course, the result being that he got abreast of Henderson. On nearing the finishing point a French man-of-war pinnace and a gig came at a swift pace up the course, giving Henderson very rough water. But unfortunately he had a mishap and had to give in, a very interesting race resulting in the victory of Lammert's crew. Sanders, who had been behind Henderson until the mishap, being second. Time, 6 mins. 47 secs.

CUTTERS; confined to men-of-war crews. The boats to be approved by the Committee. Distance, one mile. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for two prizes. Entrance, \$1. First prize, \$15; second prize, \$5. Post entries.

Boats.	Oars.
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel	10...1
H.M.S. Iphigenia (No. 2)	10...2
H.M.S. Tamar	10...3
H.M.S. Iphigenia (No. 1)	10...0

This was a most interesting race. The boats kept in an almost even line for more than half the journey. Then the Victor Emanuel boat, whose coxswain was a most enthusiastic man, pushed ahead, Iphigenia No. 2 taking second place, and Tamar last. Towards the finish Tamar made a gallant spurt, but it was too late and the Victor Emanuel won a good race by about three lengths. Time—9 mins. 25 secs.

CHINESE CUP; open pairs; crews to be submitted to the Boat House Committee. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$5.

"LILY."

Station No. 3.—Blue.

Bow, G. C. Hayward	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, E. D. Sanders	12st.	10lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"MAUDE."

Station No. 2.—White.

Bow, P. Hyndman	9st.	4lbs.
Stroke, A. J. Ellis	11st.	0lb.
Cox, F. H. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"KATHLEEN."

Station No. 1.—Black pink sash.

Bow, A. A. Alves	10st.	7lbs.
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	11st.	2lbs.
Cox, G. A. Caldwell	9st.	0lb.

Lily went ahead almost immediately and maintained the advantage throughout the race. Unfortunately Lammert's slide broke and he had to stop, but he afterwards made a good attempt to recover lost ground. Again he met with misfortune and finally had to give up the race altogether. Ellis was very fatigued and he also relinquished the contest, Sanders thus winning without any real opposition. Time—8 mins. 45 secs.

SAMPAN RACE; open to regular Chinese sampans; distance, half mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; eight boats to start for two prizes. No sampan appeared at the starting point. Probably they were all engaged.

TUB SCULLING; (tub sculling boats); distance, half mile; entrance, \$1; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

Station No. 1—F. H. Kew	Boat No. 5...1
" " 2—P. Hyndman	" " 2...0
" " 3—M. E. Asgar	" " 1...0
" " 4—J. H. Logan	" " 4...0

Hyndman was first to pass the winning point, but as he had taken Kew's water he was disqualified and the race awarded to Kew, who came in second. Time—7 mins. 6½ secs.

SAILING RACES.

YACHTS AND PARTIALLY DECKED BOATS; (in two classes); Y. R. A. handicap; prizes, a Cup for each class; entrance, \$4. Course, 9 miles.

A CLASS.

Names.	Owners.	Rating.
La Cigale	Mr. W. H. Carey, R.A.	38 Allowances.
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	23 18 min. 18 sec.
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings	23 18 " 18 "
Phoebe	Hon. F. H. May	23 18 " 18 "
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes	23 18 " 18 "
Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock	22 9 18 " 29 "
Meteor	Mr. C. H. Kew	23 18 " 18 "
Sybil	Officers, R. E.	23 18 " 18 "
Princess	Mr. J. McKie	23 18 " 18 "

B CLASS.

Payne	Officers, R. E.	23 Allowances.
Dart	Dr. Clark	22 4 1 min. 4 sec
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson	22 3 1 " 15 "
She	Mr. E. M. Hazeland	21 3 3 " 3 "

The course for the yachts and partially-decked boats, starting at 1.30, and for the open sailing boats, starting at 1.40, was:—From a line between two mark-boats moored to the south of the flagship, round a mark-boat north of Green Island, leaving it to starboard, round the white conical buoy at Cosmopolitan Dock, leaving it to star-board, across the starting line from west to east, round the west buoy off Meyer's oil works at East Point, leaving it to port, and cross the line from east to west. Distance 9 miles.

There was a fresh breeze soon after the start. The times on rounding the Green Island mark boat were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Chanticleer	3	4	10
Maid Marian	3	4	48
Phoebe	3	6	25
Erica	3	9	30
La Cigale	2	13	30
Sybil	3	13	50
Meteor	3	14	45

The wind unfortunately falling light, the run to Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy was anything but exciting. On this run, the times were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Chanticleer	4	3	20
Phoebe	4	3	30
Erica	4	5	55
Maid Marian	4	13	10
Meteor	4	17	55
La Cigale	4	19	15
Sybil	4	21	20

At 4.30, the prospects looked hopeful of going over the whole course. The umpire decided that in the event of darkness the race would finish at Meyer's Buoy. Phoebe overhauled Chanticleer by the time the starting line had

been reached, the times of the leaders then being—

	H.	M.	S.
Phoebe	4	44	30
Chanticleer	4	45	—
Erica	4	45	40
Maid Marian	4	48	20
Meteor	4	55	30

The finish was as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	5	45	50
Phoebe	5	48	—

The others had given up.

In the race for the B class of boats the times at Green Island were.—

	H.	M.	S.
She	3	19	—
Ladybird	3	20	55

The Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy was rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
She	4	27	15
Ladybird	4	28	—
Princess	4	30	—

OPEN BOATS (over 18 feet); any rig, Chinese-owned boats excluded. Entrance, \$2. Prize, \$25. Course, nine miles. Post entries.

	H.	M.	S.
Centurion's Launch	42	feet.	Allows.
Centurion's Pinnace	36	"	9 minutes.
Victor Emanuel's Galley	32	"	15 "
Victor Emanuel's Cutter	30	"	18 "
Centurion's Gig	30	"	18 "
Victor Emanuel's Gig	26	"	24 "
Victor Emanuel's Gig	24	"	27 "

A start was effected at 1.47 p.m. A light S.W. wind was blowing, and an ebb tide running. The Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy was rounded by the Victor Emanuel's galley at 4.32 and all the other boats at this time were hopelessly out of the race. At 5.15, it was decided to finish the race at the starting line, and this was notified to the leading boat, which passed between the marks at 5.32.

OPEN BOATS (18 feet or under); any rig, Chinese-owned boats excluded. Time allowance, 10 seconds per foot in length of boats per mile. Entrance, \$1. Prize, value \$20. The course, starting at 1.40, will be from the starting line, round mark boat off Green Island and back, crossing starting line from west to east; five miles. Post entries.

	H.	M.	S.
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 1	18	feet.	Allow.
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 2	18	"	"
Tamar's Gig	18	"	"
Centurion's Skiff	16	"	"
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 3	16	"	1 min. 40 sec.
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 4	16	"	1 " 40 "
Linnett's Gig	16	"	1 " 40 "
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 5	14	"	3 " 20 "
Mr. Denison's Dinghy	14	"	3 " 20 "

The time for the boats under 18 feet, which started with the larger boats, was not taken, none of them being near the mark boat off Green Island by 4.30, when it was deemed impossible for them to finish the race.

SECOND DAY, FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER.

The weather was as delightful on the second as on the first day and many spectators assembled on board the *Hohenzollern*. The racing was, it must be confessed, rather disappointing. The race for the International Challenge Cup ended in a win for the Scotch crew, but the event was far from being a notable one. There was not an exciting moment during the whole race. The winners led from start to finish, their most dangerous opponents being the Irish and the Germans. The latter, however, became too fatigued to carry on and so only three rather scattered boats remained. The English had the inside course and they pulled very steadily, but we think they must have had a strong current against them, as it was a noticeable fact that in all the events the inside boat did not appear to be on even terms with the others during more than half the course. However, the victors, who divided honours with the Germans as favourites, deserved their win, for they pulled an exceedingly good stroke throughout. The best finish was provided in the race for the German Cup, which was won by Alves's crew after a very fine struggle with the crew stroked by Sanders, the distance between them being only a length. The band of the Hongkong Regiment was again in attendance on the flagship and considerably enlivened the proceedings with many selections of music.

LIGHT GIGS; open to European Non-Commissioned Officers and men of any Regiment or Corps of the Garrison or to European crews of any of H.M. vessels or to European members of the Police Force; entrance, \$1; distance, one mile; boats to be approved of by the Committee; time allowance, 8 seconds per oar; four boats must start for two prizes; winning crew of 3rd race first day to be handicapped by the Committee. 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10.

Boats.	Name.	Oars.
Royal Engineers	Victoria	6...1
R.E. Centurion	—	2
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 2) Joan	—	0
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 1) Marjorie	—	0
West Yorks Regiment	—	6...0

Joan was very slow in getting away. The R.E. boat quickly took a lead of a couple of lengths from the others. The Engineers rowed with a very strong and swift stroke and it was seen from the outset that they would win comfortably. The Centurion men pulled gamely, but the Engineers assumed a very decided advantage. One of the Marjorie men "caught a crab" and the boat practically gave up the race, which was won easily by the R.E. by several lengths, R.E. Centurion being second. Time—7 min. 5 secs.

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE CUP; for four-oars; cup presented by the late J. S. Lapraik, Esq., to be held by the winning crew for one year; but to remain the property of the Club; distance, one-mile-and-a-half; entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"THISTLE,"

Station No. 3.—Red and white.		
Bow, G. Mollison	12st.	4lbs.
No. 2, W. Armstrong	12st.	5lbs.
No. 3, G. Wilson	12st.	11lbs.
Stroke, J. M. Henderson	11st.	9lbs.
Cox, G. A. Caldwell	9st.	0lb.

"LEEK,"

Station No. 4.—Green.		
Bow, Lt. C. P. Ryan, R.N.	10st.	0lb.
No. 2, C. C. Barlow	9st.	10lbs.
No. 3, W. S. Bailey	10st.	10lbs.
Stroke, E. D. Sanders	12st.	16lbs.
Cox, F. W. White	9st.	0lb.

"ROSE,"

Station No. 1.—St. George's Cross.		
Bow, G. R. Stevens	11st.	1lb.
No. 2, G. H. Potts	12st.	3lbs.
No. 3, A. Brooke Smith	12st.	5lbs.
Stroke, G. C. Hayward	11st.	6lbs.
Cox, H. W. Kennett	9st.	0lb.

"KORNBLUME,"

Station No. 2.—Back, white and red.		
Bow, E. Thonert	11st.	2lbs.
No. 2, F. Lammert	10st.	10lbs.
No. 3, E. Bischoff	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	11st.	2lbs.
Cox, L. A. Rose	9st.	0lb.

The boats were in a beautiful line and when the gun was fired the Scotch went straight away with a clear lead, the Germans being second, the Irish third, and the English last. The Scotch rowed a very quick stroke and in a very short time they had gained a lead of a length. The starter's launch ran in very close proximity to the Irish boat, but fortunately the launch was cleared out of the way in time. The Scotch slightly increased their lead and the Germans and Irish battled for second position. The English pulled exceedingly well together, but they could not gain ground and it was soon apparent they would never overtake the leaders. All the boats now went at an easier rate, but at the briquet factory the Germans increased their stroke and spurred. The Irish, however, held them in well, and at the wharf the Germans stopped and did not go on again until the English had caught them up. Lammert, however, was completely fagged and his boat dropped out of the race. The English now came forward, but just as they were putting on a spurt an accident to Hayward's oar prevented him from putting all his strength into his work and consequently the boat gained very little on the others. The Scotch, who all through the race,

pulled splendidly together, gained further advantage and won easily by four lengths. The Irish made a gallant fight with them and came in second, while the English were third four lengths behind. The winning crew are to be congratulated upon the capital display they gave and their victory was a most popular one. The time of the race was 11 mins. 1½ secs.

COPPER PUNTS; go as you please; distance arranged; 1st prize, \$7; 2nd prize, \$3; 3rd prize, \$2; five boats to start for three prizes. Winner of No. 5, first day, excluded.

The copper punts again failed to put in an appearance and a race between half a dozen snake boats was decided upon. This was as usual very amusing. The time was 8 mins. 14 secs.

GRIFFIN'S CUP; for four-oars; open to members and subscribers of the Victoria Recreation Club who have never won a race at a regatta in China; distance, one mile; entrance, \$5. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"SHAMROCK,"

Station No. 5.—White and red.		
Bow, H. A. Seth	9st.	2lbs.
No. 2, P. Hyndman	9st.	4lbs.
No. 3, Albert Ellis	10st.	10lbs.
Stroke, E. Herbst	9st.	6lbs.
Cox, F. W. White	9st.	0lb.

"KORNBLUME,"

Station No. 3.—White.		
Bow, R. Henderson	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, A. E. Asgar	9st.	2lbs.
No. 3, J. Coyle	11st.	11lbs.
Stroke, G. R. Stevens	11st.	1lb.
Cox, A. E. Alves	9st.	0lb.

"LEEK,"

Station No. 1.—White, red sash.		
Bow, M. A. de Figueiredo	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, H. Grant Smith	9st.	9lbs.
No. 3, O. J. Ellis	10st.	5lbs.
Stroke, J. H. R. Hance	9st.	2lbs.
Cox, T. Meek	9st.	0lb.

"ROSE,"

Station No. 2.—Blue and White.		
Bow, M. E. Asgar	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, A. J. Ellis	11st.	0lb.
No. 3, O. Levy	10st.	10lbs.
Stroke, J. M. E. de Carvalho	9st.	0lb.
Cox, L. A. Rose	9st.	0lb.

"THISTLE,"

Station No. 4.—White and red.		
Bow, N. A. Gonsalves	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, I. Grant Smith	11st.	0lb.
No. 3, G. Wilson	12st.	11lbs.
Stroke, J. D. Danby	10st.	5lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

This was rather a poor race and ended in a very easy victory for Herbst's boat, which lead from start to finish and increased its lead at each stroke. Danby and Carvalho both gave up and the race was really one for second place, which was secured by Stevens. The inside boat, Leek, was third. Time—7 mins. 27 secs.

SAMPANS; open to regular Chinese sampans; distance, half-mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; eight boats to start for two prizes; winner of No. 9, first day, excluded.

Two sampans turned up and at the finish the occupants were almost dead.

GERMAN CUP; presented by the members of the Club Germania; for four-oars; distance, one mile; entrance, \$10; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"LEEK,"

Station No. 2.—White.		
Bow, T. Meek	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, A. Brooke Smith	12st.	5lbs.
No. 3, G. Wilson	12st.	11lbs.
Stroke, A. A. Alves	10st.	7lbs.
Cox, F. W. White	9st.	0lb.

"KORNBLUME,"

Station No. 5.—Blue.		
Bow, G. L. Duncan	10st.	6lbs.
No. 2, Albert Ellis	10st.	10lbs.
No. 3, G. C. Hayward	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, E. D. Sanders	12st.	10lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"THISTLE,"

Station No. 1.—Black, pink sash.		
Bow, L. A. Rose	9st.	0lb.
No. 2, F. Lammert	10st.	10lbs.
No. 3, W. S. Bailey	11st.	11lbs.
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	11st.	2lbs.
Cox, J. M. E. de Carvalho	9st.	0lbs.

"SHAMROCK." 0

Station No. 3.—Red and white.

Bow, A. E. Alves	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, G. R. Stevens	11st.	1lb.
No. 3, G. H. Potts	12st.	3lbs.
Stroke, J. M. Henderson	11st.	9lbs.
Cox, J. H. R. Hance	9st.	0lb.

"ROSE." 0

Station No. 4.

Bow, J. D. Danby	10st.	5lbs.
No. 2, E. Thonert	11st.	2lbs.
No. 3, E. Bischoff	11st.	6lbs.
Stroke, G. Mollison	12st.	4lbs.
Cox, R. Henderson	9st.	0lb.

This race resulted in the best finish record during the regatta. Unfortunately mishaps to the Shamrock and Rose compelled them to give up the contest very soon after the start. All through the Leek and Rose ran an exceedingly close race, the Thistle being close up behind. Alves's crew pulled very well indeed and won a fine race by a length. Time, 7 mins. 47 secs.

TUB RACE; one man per tub; one yulow allowed; course arranged; 1st prize, \$5; 2nd prize, \$3; 3rd prize, \$1.

This race did not fill.

BROKERS' CUP; (for double sculls); distance, half mile; entrance, \$5; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

"LILY." 1

Station No. 2.—White and red.

Bow, A. E. Alves	10st.	5lbs.
Stroke, A. A. Alves	10st.	7lbs.
Cox, F. W. White	9st.	0lb.

"EILEEN." 2

Station No. 1.—White.

Bow, J. H. R. Hance	9st.	2lbs.
Stroke, F. H. Kew	9st.	6lbs.
Cox, C. T. Kew	9st.	0lb.

"KATHLEEN." 0

Station No. 3.—Blue, white sash.

Bow, M. A. de Figueiredo	9st.	0lb.
Stroke, F. M. Roza Pereira, Jr.	10st.	0lb.
Cox, J. M. E. de Carvalho	9st.	0lb.

Kathleen was first away, but she was quickly overtaken by the Lily, which was stroked very well indeed, the result being that she won by a length. Time—6 mins. 35 secs.

FOR MEN-OF-WAR GIGS AND WHALERS; distance, one mile; entrance, \$1; first prize, \$15; second \$5; the boats to be approved by the Committee. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Three Boats must start or no race. Post entries.

Boats.	Names.	Oars.
H.M.S. Centurion	5..1
H.M.S. Iphigenia, (No. 2)	6..2
H.M.S. Iphigenia, (No. 1)	5..3
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 1)0
H.M.S. Victor Emanuel (No. 2)0
H.M.S. Handy0
Torpedo Depot0

The race was somewhat of a procession, but all the boats nevertheless pulled their best throughout. The Centurion took the lead at the outset and won pretty comfortably. Time—9 mins. 50½ secs.

SELECTED FOURS; crews arranged by the committee; entries close before first race second day; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club; entrance, \$10. Distance, one mile.

"ROSE." 1

Station No. 3

Bow, G. L. Duncan	
No. 3, A. E. Alves	
No. 2, G. Wilson	
Stroke, G. C. Hayward	
Cox, F. W. White	

"SHAMROCK." 0

Station No. 4

Bow, T. Meek	
No. 3, J. D. Danby	
No. 2, G. Mollison	
Stroke, A. A. Alves	
Cox, C. T. Kew	

"LEEK." 0

Station No. 1

No. 4, L. A. Ellis	
No. 3, A. Ellis	
No. 2, J. Coyle	
Stroke, R. F. Lammert	
Cox, J. M. E. Carvalho	

"THISTLE." 0

Station No. 2

No. 4, C. Hance	
No. 2, G. H. Stevens	
No. 3, G. H. Potts	
Stroke, J. M. Henderson	
Cox, F. Kew	

Perhaps this was a good race, perhaps it was not. Nobody could say because darkness had set in long before the start. Hayward finished by moonlight alone.

SAILING RACES.

FOR YACHTS AND PARTIALLY DECKED BOATS: (handicap by the Committee of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club); first prize, cup presented by the Commodore and officers of H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*; second prize, cup; entrance, \$4. Course, 9 miles.

Names.	Owners.	Rating
La Cigale	Mr. W. H. Carey	38 Allowance.
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	23 18 minutes
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings	23 18 "
Phoebe	Hon. F. H. May	23 21 "
Meteor	Mr. C. H. Kew	23 22 "
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tones	23 22½ "
Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock	22.9 22½ "
Sybil	Officers R.E.	23 22½ "
Princess	Mr. J. McKie	23 22 "
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson	29 "
Payne	Dr. Clark	31 "
Dart	Officers R.E.	31 "
She	Mr. E. M. Hazeland	31½ "

The course for the yachts and partially-decked boats, starting at 1.30, and for the open sailing boats, starting at 1.40, was:—From a line between two mark-boats moored to the south of the Flagship, round a mark-boat north of Green Island, leaving it to starboard, round the white conical buoy at Cosmopolitan Dock, leaving it to starboard, across the starting line from west to east, round the west buoy off Meyer's oil works at East Point, leaving it to port, and cross the line from east to west. Distance, 9 miles.

Green Island mark-boat was passed as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Phoebe	2	42	—
Erica	2	45	40
Meteor	2	45	40
Ladybird	2	48	45
Active	2	49	15
La Cigale	2	51	55
Maid Marian	2	52	05
Sybil	2	52	45
Payne	2	55	40
She	2	58	40
Chanticleer	3	1	45
Princess	3	4	—

The Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy was rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Phoebe	3	52	—
Meteor	3	54	—
Erica	3	54	20
Ladybird	3	55	45
Active	3	56	25
La Cigale	3	57	25
Maid Marian	4	1	—

The winning mark was passed in the following order:—

	H.	M.	S.
Phoebe	(2)	4	13 45
Erica	..	4	16 —
Meteor	(3)	4	16 55
La Cigale	..	4	17 18
Active	..	4	18 10
Ladybird	(1)	4	18 55
Maid Marian	..	4	21 15
Payne	..	4	28 —
Sybil	..	4	28 10
Chanticleer	..	4	30 25
She	..	4	31 45
Princess	..	4	34 —

By the time allowance (handicap) the result is as follows:—

Ladybird	1
Phoebe	2
Meteor	3

OPEN BOATS; any rig, Chinese owed boats excluded; time allowance, 10 seconds per foot in length per mile; length of boat to be stated; entrance, \$2; Prize, \$25. Course, 9 miles.

(Winner of similar race on first day to be penalised 5 minutes).

Centurion's Launch	42 feet	Allowance.
Centurion's Pinnace	36 "	9 minutes.
Victor Emanuel's Galley	32 "	15 "
Victor Emanuel's Cutter	30 "	18 "
Centurion's Gig	30 "	18 "
Victor Emanuel's Gig	26 "	24 "

The Green Island mark was passed as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Police Gig	3	49	—
Victor Emanuel Galley	4	12	—
Victor Emanuel Cutter	4	15	—
Southern Cross	4	15	25

The Cosmopolitan Buoy was rounded as follows by the two leading boats:—

Police Gig	4	52	—
Victor Emanuel's Cutter	4	59	30

The finish was—

	H.	M.	S.
Police Gig	5	12	—
Victor Emanuel Cutter	5	21	10

OPEN BOATS; (18 feet or under); any rig; Chinese-owned boats excluded; time allowance, 10 seconds per foot in length of Boats per mile; entrance, \$1; prize, value \$20. The course, starting at 1.40, will be from the starting line, round mark boat off Green Island and back, crossing starting line from west to east; five miles. Post entries.

Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 1	18 feet.	Allowance
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 2	18 "	"
Tamar's Gig	18 "	"
Centurion's Gig	18 "	"
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 3	16 "	1 min. 40 sec
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 4	16 "	1 " 40 "
Linnets' Gig	16 "	1 " 40 "
Victor Emanuel's Skiff No. 5	14 "	3 " 29 "
Mr A. Denison's Dinghy	14 "	3 " 20 "

The boats passed Green Island Mark as follows:—

Alacrity's Skiff	3	45	—
Linnets' Gig	4	16	—
Victor Emanuel No. 4 Skiff	4	17	—
Denison's Dinghy	4	17	45
Tamar's Gig	4	18	—
Victor Emanuel No. 2 Skiff	4	18	20
"	1 Skiff	4	19 20
"	5 Skiff	4	19 45

The winner was—

	H.	M.	S.
Alacrity's Skiff	5	12	—

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

The prizes won at the annual regatta were presented on Saturday, 11th December, by Mrs. W. C. H. Hastings at the Victoria Recreation Club. Commander Hastings remarked that good weather had favoured the regatta and there was an increase in the number of entries. It was curious to note that a family usually swept the board at the sporting meetings. This year the clan Alves had practically swept the board. Mrs. Hastings then presented the prizes and cheers were raised for Commander and Mrs. Hastings, Mr. W. Machell (Hon. Secretary), and Commodore Holland. In returning thanks Commodore Holland remarked that the navy had been most pleasantly associated with the Victoria Recreation Club, the result being that a larger number of men-of-war's boats competed. He trusted the friendship between the navy and Club would always continue.

BOXING CONTEST AT THE CITY HALL.

A boxing contest was held at the City Hall on Monday night. The entertainment, which was promoted by Mr. Harper, of the Stag Hotel, opened with a five round sparring exhibition between Talbot and Ashdown, both of the West Yorks. The contest excited no little merriment, as both fought a pit-a-pat game from the first, slapping one another merrily on the cheeks and then playing for the body with much vivacity. The next item was a three round bout between Haslem and Whyte. There was warmer work in this encounter, Haslem showing himself a smart boxer. His lefts were delivered straight and sure, and his rights were strong. He floored his opponent once in the second round. This ended the first half of the programme and preparations were made for the next event—the twelve round contest between Northcott (H.M.S. *Tamar*), the

unbeaten champion of Hongkong, and Hucker (Naval Yard), the unbeaten champion of the Navy, for the heavy-weight championship of Hongkong. For the first time in Hongkong six ounce gloves were used. The contest evoked an extraordinary amount of interest and when the men stepped into the ring, they were hailed with loud applause by a very large audience. Both men were in fine condition and about the same weight, but Northcott had a slight advantage in height and youth.

The following were the officials:—For Northcott—Kellaway (Torpedo Depot) and Marlow (Victor Emanuel), seconds; Wannor (Armoury Q.M.S.), judge; and Sergeant-Major Westcott, timekeeper. For Hucker—Dacey (Iphigenia) and Hallgrove (Victor Emanuel), seconds; O'Donnell, judge; C. T. Robinson, timekeeper. Mr. Chesney Duncan acted as referee.

Round 1.—Practically little work was put in at first, each combatant apparently wishing to know something of the tactics of his opponent and to have an idea of the length of his reach. Neither seemed inclined to let out for a while. Hucker finally opened with a left on Northcott's neck, and received one on the same spot. Northcott followed up with two lefts on the mouth and a third on the body. Hucker swung a right on his opponent's shoulder and dodged the return blow. Later on he delivered another left on Northcott's mouth and received one on the side of the head. Northcott had slightly the advantage in this round.

Round 2.—Northcott lead with a left and right in quick succession on either side of Hucker's head. He followed these up and soon knocked his opponent down with a swinging right on the jaw. Hucker was up in a moment, but Northcott continued his advantage and staggered his opponent with another right. Excitement rose high. In the struggle which followed, Hucker checked his man with a left in the face and then landed a swinging right on his opponent's jaw, knocking him clean over. As Northcott attempted to rise, Hucker rushed upon him, and delivered right and left on his head, forcing him down again. Northcott once more tried to get up, but was floored. He was down for fourteen seconds. While this was going on in the ring, excitement among the audience had risen to a climax. As of one accord, the whole house arose and loudly vociferated and gesticulated. Cries of "Foul" were heard, some people apparently being under the impression that Hucker let out while his opponent was still on the ground, but there can be no doubt that the contest was fairly fought and that Northcott was well off the ground when he was felled the second time. The shouts of "Foul" were soon drowned by shouts of "Go at him, Hucker," but he of course restrained from hitting out while his opponent was down. The referee's verdict that Hucker had won was greeted with popular enthusiasm. The winner left his corner to shake hands with Northcott, who at first refused, but he afterwards went forward and paid his compliments to the winner.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB V. NAVY.

This match, in which the Club by special request refrained from calling on the W.Y.R., was, as usual, keenly contested, and ended in a draw, perceptibly in favour of the first line of defence. Pead and Gillett opened against Smith and Gillingham and batted so well that constant changes of bowling had no effect till 93 was totalled, when Gillett, unduly letting himself go, was bowled for a hard hit 55. On Rawson going to the wickets, the batsmen still maintained the upper hand and tiffin was announced with one wicket down for 140 runs. Owing to the ready response made by the Club men to the whip sent round, the game had then been in progress for one hour and three quarters! Soon after resuming the middy was skillfully taken at point for a well played 25, the score being 152. His exit was, however, the beginning of the end, for wickets began to tumble quickly, the next to go being Pead bowled by a good baller. The retiring batsman had played a sterling innings for his side marked by exemplary caution at first and later on by some fine cutting and off driving. As the last eight wickets yielded but 50 runs, we will not enter

into detail but leave the reader to his own wits. Smith and Lammert had five and four wickets at a cost of 61 and 30 runs respectively. The Club began to bat about 2.45 and were represented by Cox and the captain, who faced a total of 202 to be got in 2½ hours and were opposed by Dewar and Gillett. Cox and Campbell, his successor, were both out of form, but on Dyson coming in a useful stand seemed likely as the A.P.D. man was well set, when he was called by Smith for a sharp run off a cut misfielded by third man who, however, recovering himself, rightly threw in to the bowler's wicket which he had the misfortune to hit. Maitland joined the captain and both batsmen playing with confidence a good stand appeared imminent, when Smith had to go with those exasperating three letters so well known to him before the bowler's name. His quota was a somewhat fortunate 44. Ward being in too much haste to score found an early opportunity to repent at leisure, whilst Langhorne was adjudged l.b.w. off a palpable hit: but both events are a part and parcel of the game. Maitland, batting with slashing confidence, was joined by Vallings, and the pair, by quick scoring, added 45 runs before the Hon. Treasurer was had behind the sticks for a characteristic 40. Too soon afterwards, Vallings, in his eagerness to force the game, fell at mid-off off a mis-hit, having made 26 in something like his old form. With 13 minutes to elapse and two wickets to fall, the chances of the Navy were decidedly good; but Gillingham and Lammert played steadily and effected a draw, of which the landsmen undoubtedly had the worst. However, after a recent phenomenal finish, prophecy is nonsense and one can only express an opinion. Dewar was the only successful bowler with a record of 6 wickets for 64. Missed catches were again a marked feature of the game, but the ground fielding, though sometimes individually slack, was maintained at a good standard. By permission of Admiral Sir Alex. Buller, K.C.B., Captain Spencer Login and officers, the band of H.M.S. Centurion played with much acceptance during the afternoon. Leaving cricket aside, we may mention that, as the outcome of a sporting challenge from the L.R.C., a game of football to the death will be played on the new ground, Happy Valley, at 4 p.m. this afternoon. Good judges and ardent partisans and admirers of two very powerful contesting teams (both cocksure of victory) should crowd to the ground which, thanks to the powers that be, will not be enclosed and to which admission will be free. The result and a list of casualties will be published to-morrow. Meanwhile we append the score and analysis in the cricket match described above:—

NAVY.	
Dr. J. Pead, b Sercombe Smith	70
Lt. H. A. Gillett, b Sercombe Smith	55
Mr. H. Rawson, c Langhorne, b Lammert	25
Lt. Plumer, c Maitland, b Lammert	12
Mr. H. Shipway, run out	0
Mr. J. F. A. Hastings, b Lammert	0
Lt. R. E. Dewar, l.b.w. Sercombe Smith	13
Lt. T. Shelford, b Sercombe Smith	12
Mr. C. de Crespigny, b Lammert	0
Mr. W. M. Whayman, c Maitland, b Sercombe Smith	9
Mr. H. Hitchins, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	202

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Overs.	Maid. Runs. Wides. N.B. Wickets.
Sercombe Smith 21.0	2 61 — — 5
Gillingham ... 12	— 44 — — —
Vallings ... 10	1 18 — — —
Robinson ... 2	— 16 — — —
R. F. Lammert 12	4 30 — — 4
Langhorne ... 6	1 17 — — —
Cox ... 3	1 8 — — —

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.	
Sercombe Smith, l b w 5 Hastings	44
P. A. Cox, c Hastings, b Dewar	5
G. D. Campbell, b Dewar	5
Capt. P. S. Dyson, run out	3
F. Maitland, c Pead, b Dewar	40
A. G. Ward, c Pead, b Dewar	4
Capt. H. H. Langhorne, l.b.w. b Dewar	7
Rev. G. R. Vallings, c Crespigny, b Dewar	26
J. R. Gillingham, not out	2
R. F. Lammert, not out	3
S. Robinson, R.N.R., did not bat	
Extras	15
Total	154

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Overs.	Maid. Runs. Wides. N.B. Wickets.
Dewar ... 26	7 64 — 3 6
Gillett ... 16	6 35 — — —
Hastings ... 9	3 22 — — 1
Shelford ... 7	3 9 — — —
Shipway ... 4	2 8 — — —

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR DECEMBER.

Play for the monthly cup was carried on from the 4th to 6th inst. Owing to the dry weather the links have become very hard. Subjoined are the details of the cards returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	95	8	87
Mr. E. M. Knox	104	16	88
Mr. F. H. Pellew	101	13	88
Mr. W. J. Saunders	105	15	90
Capt. R. M. Rumsey, R.N.	99	8	91
Mr. C. W. Spriggs	107	15	92
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	108	15	93

17 entries.

POOL.

Mr. W. J. Saunders	105	15	90
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	108	15	93

11 entries.

WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT V. THE CLUB.

Favoured by glorious weather a very enjoyable trip was made three days ago to the links at Deep Water Bay. Teams of six-a-side had been arranged and in the morning three foursomes made a half round of the links—nine holes. After disposing of a satisfactory luncheon on board the launch *Victoria*, which had been very kindly lent for the occasion, the match of the day was started. The Club succeeded in pulling off the foursomes by a small margin, but were very seriously, and rather unexpectedly, defeated in the afternoon. The Captain of the Club and the A.D.C. halved their match, whilst the Captain's brother was the only member on the Club's side "up" on his opponent. The gallant Major was in great fettle and playing quite at the top of his form, and accomplishing a fair number of holes in 3, wiped the floor with his opponent. The following were the results of the day's play under handicaps:—

Holes.		Holes.	
Capt. G. F. Phillips, A.D.C.	1	Mr. G. Stewart	0
Mr. M. D. Wood	1	Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	0
Major Grant-Dalton	10	Mr. E. A. Ram	0
Mr. F. H. Pellew	0	Mr. J. Thurburn	3
Mr. T. N. Howard	0	Mr. C. Palmer	0
Mr. A. A. W. Spencer	0	Mr. M. Stewart	0
	1		3
Capt. G. F. Phillips, A.D.C.	0	Mr. G. Stewart	0
Major Grant-Dalton	10	Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	0
Mr. F. H. Pellew	9	Mr. C. Palmer	0
Mr. T. N. Howard	3	Mr. E. A. Ram	0
Mr. M. D. Wood	5	Mr. J. Thurburn	0
Mr. A. A. W. Spencer	0	Mr. M. Stewart	1
	27		1

It should perhaps be noted that the officers were receiving 12 strokes from their opponents, which, however, does not account for the latter's defeat.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

THIRD CLUB RACE, 5TH DECEMBER.

The wind on Sunday was anything but satisfactory, being a succession of light winds and calms from start to finish. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Stonecutters (port), mark boat off Chung Hue (port), north fairway buoy (port), and Cosmopolitan Dock buoy (starboard), 14 miles. The starters were:—

A CLASS.

Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock
Meteor	Mr. T. W. Lammert
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings
Phoebe	Mr. F. H. May
Erica	Mr. A. Denison
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes

B CLASS.

Dart	Dr. Clark
Payne	Officers, R.E.
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson
She	Mr. E. M. Hazeland

The B class started at 1.20 and the A class at 1.30.

Payne, Ladybird, and Dart got off well together, but She was down near the lee end of the line in a calm patch and got left. Payne carried on with a light wind to within half-a-mile of the Chung Hue mark and then waited for the other three, which were becalmed in different parts of the harbour, and were passed by many of the first class soon after their start. It was a beat up in the north wind as far as the north side of stonecutters and Meteor was then leader of the A class with Maid Marian next, then Phoebe, Ladybird, and Erica, with Active and Chanticleer some distance behind but all in front of Dart and She. With the exception of the two last, the boats all caught up with Payne and were becalmed for half-an-hour at the Chung Hue mark boat. A light N.E. wind put them round in the following order:—Active, Chanticleer, Meteor, Payne, Maid Marian, Ladybird, Erica and Phoebe, with She and Dart about twenty minutes or so after. A reach brought the boats to the fairway buoy, when the order was:—Active, Chanticleer, Payne, Meteor, Maid Marian, Erica, Phoebe, and Ladybird within about four minutes, She and Dart still behind. In the beat up to Cosmopolitan Dock the wind fell lighter, and Erica passed all but Active and Chanticleer, the others keeping the same order except that Payne fell to the rear of the A class boats. A free reach to the finish with a N.N.E. wind, during which Erica went to the front and Maid Marian into third place, and the line was crossed as follows:—

A CLASS.

	H.	M.	S.	
Erica	5	2	3	first 10 points
Active	5	2	25	second 4 "
Maid Marian	5	2	34	third 1 "
Chanticleer	5	4	13	
Meteor	5	6	38	
Phoebe	5	8	35	

B CLASS.

	H.	M.	S.	
Payne	5	9	55	first 10 points
Ladybird	5	12	45	second 4 "
She	5	41	33	third 1 "
Dart				gave up
Points gained up to date are:—				
Maid Marian				21
Erica				18
Active				4
Chanticleer				1
Phoebe				1
Payne				24
Ladybird				18
Dart				1
She				1

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB V. LADIES' RECREATION CLUB.

There was but a small attendance at the new ground, Happy Valley, on 18th December to witness the match under Association Rules between the Hongkong Cricket Club and the Ladies' Recreation Club. Among those present were Major-General Black, Colonel Gordon, and a few ladies. The kick-off was announced for four o'clock sharp, but it was not till 4.30 that the teams faced each other, and for the first half of the game each side had to play with one man short, Mr. P. G. Davies, R.A., and Mr. C. W. Gordon, W.Y.K., not having turned up. The following were the respective teams:—Hongkong Cricket Club:—P. G. Davies, R.A. (captain), W. D. Mayson, R. G. D. Dewar, R.N., J. R. Gillingham, W. Armstrong, E. R. Morris, A. E. M. Head, R.A., H. C. Rawson, R.N., J. R. Noble, and D. Wood. Ladies' Recreation Club:—E. L. C. Berger, H.K.R., H. W. Looker (captain), P. L. Ingpen, W.Y.R., J. W. Crowley, W.Y.R., E. F. Mackay, J. D. Danby, R. S. Anton, H. S. Moberley, H.R.K., and G. W. Millward. Mr. Frank Browne acted as referee.

The Cricket Club won the toss and at the outset of the game brought the ball in close proximity to their opponents' goal but failed to score. Looker then sent the ball forward, and it was secured by Moberley who very prettily dribbled with it down the left wing. Just as he was being hampered by the back, Moberley cleverly made a long pass to centre, who tried a straight shot for the net, but the goal-keeper just managed to save

in time. After this the leather travelled to and fro for a while without any very material advantage to either side. The goals were attacked in turn and at one moment the Cricket Club forwards might have scored if they had only kept cool. The ball dropped from the goal keeper's hands three times, but in the bustle the forwards failed to touch it. At another moment a foul was given against the L.R.C.'s goal quite near the posts. The chance was missed, but a corner followed. Noble planted the ball at centre, but Morris shot just a little too high.

Upon changing sides, the Cricket Club's goal had two very narrow escapes. Anton made a straight shot, which Davies, who had turned up and had taken charge of the posts, only managed to divert by a blow at the ball. The L. R. C.'s forwards then pressed on, and Dewar and Mayson had to do their utmost to save their goal. Dewar, however, finally got the ball through, and sent it over to Head who took it down the wing. He was pressed by Looker, but managed to pass the ball on to Noble, who returned it, and Head sent it spinning into the net. This was the first and the only goal scored during the match. The L. R. C. in the increasing dusk tried their level best to get matters even, but all their efforts proved futile. The Cricket Club thus won by one goal to nil.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE OLD GAME OF BLUFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—Would you kindly allow me a small space to reply to the remarks of "One Who Knows Them," which appeared a day or two ago in your widely read paper. "One Who Knows Them" goes to the trouble to prove that the Chinese are not a military people and that all their pretence at war preparation will, alas! lead to no bloodshed. But should not this be rather a matter for satisfaction than otherwise? Verily we are a queer people, we Westerns. We go forth with a mission of peace and good will in one hand, and fire and the sword in the other, to the uttermost ends of the earth; and then when we encounter a people who don't preach but almost put into practise our religious principles, we can find not praise, but only scorn, for them. Is it due to the consciousness of our own shortcomings, or what? "One Who Knows Them" knows, I fear, but very little about them except that they can't fight, and that everybody knows. But fighting isn't everything. Fifty years ago they could not fight when we took Hongkong. But to whom does Hongkong practically belong to day? Might it not almost be said that they have re-conquered with weapons far mightier than the sword?—Enclosing my card, I remain, Sir, yours truly,

ANTI-JINGO.

Hongkong, 6th December, 1897.

THE PEAK TRAMWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—Visitors passing through Hongkong are put to inconvenience by the fact that none of the working staff of the Peak tramcars wear any uniform or badge of office. Visitors therefore do not know to whom to apply on the platform for information as to when the trams start, &c. I think a uniform cap, with the word "Conductor" or "Brakesman" embroidered on it, should be issued to the European employees and the Chinese ticket collectors should have a badge, "Ticket collector" on their sleeves or coats. With the increased traffic these badges become absolutely essential.—Yours,

DISTINGUISHING MARK.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1897.

THE SAILING RACES FOR PARTIALLY DECKED BOATS AT THE REGATTA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR.—Whilst the Regatta is still fresh in people's minds, I may perhaps be permitted to make some suggestions for the improvement

of the conditions under which the sailing races are run.

Extraordinary as it may seem, it would appear that actually no time limit was fixed for the termination of the races, and consequently the only course which the Committee could adopt to bring matters to a conclusion on the first day was to shorten the course.

What I would suggest for the consideration of the Committee is that, in every sailing race at a future Regatta, a time limit of five o'clock should be fixed upon, and that there should be no shortening of the course under any circumstances, and that, if the first boat does not finish by five o'clock, the race should be resailed.

The start for these races has always been fixed at 1.30 p.m. and the course has always been only nine miles, and my contention is that, if fast boats, such as those which we have now in the fleet, cannot get round such a short course in three hours and a half the so-called race can only be considered as more or less of a drifting match and not a fair test of the speed of the different boats.

Nobody, I think, will contend that the two days racing, which has just concluded, furnished at all a satisfactory trial between the competing boats, and it would surely have been far better, under such circumstances, to have had a time limit fixed, so that the races might either have been sailed out to the finish or, if the time limit were exceeded, resailed again under some more suitable conditions of wind.

I need hardly point out in conclusion that shortening the course originally fixed upon is a most unsatisfactory method of procedure and must always give rise to a considerable amount of dissatisfaction. As a matter of fact the course was curtailed yesterday in a most abrupt and unnecessary fashion and just at a time when the real racing was beginning. Four or five of the boats actually sailed round the whole course, being in doubt as to whether the race had actually terminated or not; the leading boat, "La Cigale," finishing at 4.58.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

HENRY E. POLLOCK.

Owner of the "Active"

18, Bank Buildings,

Hongkong 11th December, 1897.

P. S.—May I be permitted to add a still further suggestion to the above, namely, that the present time-honoured Regatta course, which is not at all a suitable one, because it involves not only sailing down through the shipping but also running the gauntlet of a long string of steam launches between the Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy and the line, might with advantage be altered.

THE OPEN AIR FÊTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR.—You may be interested to know that the accounts of the open air fête, lately held in the grounds at Government House, by kind permission of the Governor, in aid of winter relief amongst the poor in London, have been balanced, and that the total receipts amounted to \$2,136. The expenses were \$430.84, leaving a balance of \$1,705.16, which goes home by the next mail.

In your notice of the fête in the *Daily Press* you credited me with far more than I deserved. Really I had very little to do with the practical organisation of the fête. *Palmarum qui meruit ferat*.—Yours faithfully,

R. F. COBBOLD,

Hon. Treasurer.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1897.

JUBILEE MEDALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—I missed the following speeches by H.E. the Governor in the presentation of Jubilee Medals on the 11th inst:—

Rev. R. F. Cobbold.—Mr. Cobbold, the august ceremony in the Cathedral was one of the most striking functions of the Jubilee celebration. I have much pleasure in presenting you with a gold medal in memory of that ceremony, in which you took so important a part.

Right Rev. L. M. Piazzoli, Bishop of Clazomena, I have the pleasure to present you with the Jubilee gold medal of Hongkong, in

memory of the special thanksgiving service held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and in recognition of the unity with which all religious denominations joined in celebrating an august event.

Dr. Francis Clark, the anxiety and strain you must have endured during the crowded state of the colony during the celebration, and the efforts made by the Sanitary executive to ward off disease, have well earned this gold medal, which I now have the pleasure to present you.—Yours,

WHY FORGOTTEN?

Hongkong, 13th December, 1897.

THE STRAITS CHINAMAN IMPRISONED AT AMOY.

THE AGGRIEVED MAN'S PETITION.

An extraordinary incident is reported from Amoy, says the *Straits Times*. Teng Cheong, a reputable and well-known Chinese trader in Singapore, who is a British subject, has been thrown into prison there by the Chinese authorities, on the initiative of a German firm, for an alleged debt, notwithstanding his appeals to the British Consul, and the due presentation of his passport. Failing to obtain redress from the British Minister at Peking, to whom the matter was referred by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Amoy, Teng Cheong has now sent in a petition to the Governor of the Straits Settlements. The petitioner earnestly appeals to His Excellency to take immediate steps.

THE PETITION.

The following is the substance of the petition:—

"I was born at Singapore, of British parents, where I have ever resided, and established myself as a merchant under the firm name and style of Teng Cheong. I have occasionally visited Amoy, and did not report myself to H.B.M.'s Consul, because my stays were of short duration, and there appeared to be no occasion to assert my nationality.

Lately, I became aware that a German firm in Amoy had failed to collect certain sums of money from certain Chinese, who had chartered a steamer, and that the said German firm alleged that I had a share in the said charter. My property was seized at the solicitation of the firm, through the German Consul, by the Chinese authorities. I deemed it, therefore, prudent to let it be known that I was a British subject. Accordingly, I applied for and received a passport from His Excellency the Governor of my native country, to visit China, a copy of which passport is enclosed.

Later, when I arrived at this port I presented it to H.B.M.'s Consul, and secured a certificate of registration. Later, the German Consul applied to H.B.M.'s Consul to have me sent to the local Chinese authorities. My property was temporarily released as I was informed that the question of my allegiance was to be investigated.

In the meantime, H.B.M.'s Consul solicited that I should give him a security of \$5,000 for the space of three months for my appearance. The Consul addressed the British Minister and the local authorities on the subject, and I heard no more about the matter until the 19th November, when to my great surprise I was informed by H.B.M.'s Consul at this port that he "could not do anything for me." The question of my nationality had not been gone into, nor had I been given an opportunity to prove my claims. A request for a re-hearing brought only the same reply from H.B.M.'s Consul. I then requested H.B.M.'s Consul to give me a written statement of his position, and had the honour to receive a communication a copy of which I enclose.

I was advised by H.B.M.'s Consul to go and see the German Consul. I did so, and behold he demanded of me a deposit of \$20,000 to answer as security, stating if all turned out well I could get it back. I, of course, refused, and was instantly arrested by the German Consul, and delivered over to the local authorities, and by them lodged in prison, where I still remain to this day.

I am charged with being a shareholder in a certain chartering of a steamer plying between Amoy and the Straits. I reside at Singapore, where I have a business house, and, if I had

been interested at all, the said steamer would have been consigned to my firm, and I would have had something to do with the disbursing of funds for the ship's use, &c. Yet it is easy for me to prove that I had no such connection with the chartering of the said steamer, nor was I in any way associated with those who did. In fact it is easy for me to disprove the charges of the German Company, to say nothing of their inability to show me my name, stamp, or signature on any paper containing any reference to the chartering of the said steamer. Nor is there the slightest possible evidence to substantiate the charge or claim against me. I am in a position to prove that the said steamer was chartered by one Khoo Hok, and the charter-party was guaranteed by one Khoo Sin, who has since decamped; that the said Khoo Hok had borrowed from me the sum of \$500, for which amount I hold his receipt; that the said German Company had caused the arrest of one Khoo Tiong Tian, uncle of the charterer Khoo Hok, who was requested, or instigated by the said German Company to declare that I had an interest in the chartering of the said steamer, but had declined to say so. Were I in any way lawfully bound or indebted to the said German firm, the claim could have been collected from me in the Consular Court of my native country, and by appealing to my country I could not avoid the consequences of my own acts. Therefore, it was not to avoid justice that I sought protection. But I have been delivered to the local Chinese authorities who are now daily extorting money from me without any regard to justice. Before the case will have been concluded, the local authorities will have extorted from me, by methods already familiar to all, my entire fortune. Then, in all probability, they will release me, and inform the German Consul there is no case against me.

By this His Excellency will observe that H.B.M.'s Minister at Peking has advised the Consul at this port that I have no claim to be treated as a British subject, nor to protection either in person or property. He gives me no reason or idea of the basis of this most remarkable decision. I can but believe that the British Minister acted without the facts before him. I cannot even learn what question was submitted to him by the British Consul for decision or advice. The Consul took no testimony whatever, nor made any efforts to ascertain the truth of my assertions. Hence I am at a loss to know what hypothetical case he could have submitted to the British Minister which would justify such an opinion. I have been taught that the laws of my country permitted no subject, however humble, to be condemned without a hearing. Such has been my misfortune. My papers are unchallenged, my allegiance unquestioned, so far as I am advised.

In conclusion, I pray that His Excellency will be pleased to communicate by telegram if possible with the British Minister at Peking and the Consul at Amoy, requesting that either of them should secure abeyance of proceedings until I can be given an impartial hearing in the matter of my claim. I have instructed my agents at Singapore to pay for the expense of telegrams.

CHINA AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

A decree dated the 15th of October has been promulgated to all the Viceroy and Governors of provinces consenting to the proposals of Yang Yi-chih, a Cantonese and a member of the Transmission Office, recommending the minting of gold coins in order to prevent the drain that is now going on of gold from the country. The high authorities of the territories where gold is produced are, therefore, commanded to send at once a note of the annual output of their territories, while the other Governors are exhorted to send explorers over the empire to prospect for the precious metal and report at once to Peking if they find any. The intention is to buy up the gold in the country that is now being sold to foreigners.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A fire took place at Raub recently, resulting in the destruction of the Raub Company's blacksmith and carpenter's shop.

SAIGON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Saigon, 1st December.

In a few days there will be great festivities in Saigon. On the 5th inst. King Norodom of Cambodia and the young Emperor Than-Tai of Annam (the latter for the first time) will visit Saigon to return the visit of the Governor-General, and for quite six days the town will be en fête. Tradesmen will profit by the gaiety.

The Colonial Council has commenced its session. The Council is much opposed to the project of the Government to construct a railway from Saigon to Hanoi along the coast. To old residents the utility of such a railway seems very doubtful. A compromise has for the moment been arrived at, but in official circles the railway seems to have been decided upon.

The construction of a large bridge across the Saigon river at a point above the harbour has been decided upon and will put the two banks in communication, thus allowing intercourse with the almost unknown district opposite to Saigon.

The Chinese have petitioned the Government not to put into execution the contemplated "service anthropometrique," under which a description of each individual was to be registered. They argue that they and their families cannot well submit to measuring, and the idea has consequently been modified so that only the hands will be measured. Unfortunately it happens too often that a man who is wanted cannot be found; hence the desirability of security for identification.

Next year's crops promise to be very good ones.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

Twenty expectant officers have been selected by the Viceroy and the Governor to study foreign languages and affairs and learn how to deal with foreigners. The Provincial Treasurer is to undertake the matter and the officers are to be examined monthly. The Provincial Treasurer has given each of the officers a number of foreign books.

It is said that copper, coal, and gold have been found in the mountain named Kam Sing-mi, in the vicinity of Wuchow. A Sansz has applied to the Governor of Kwangsi to be allowed to open the said mines. His application has been granted. The Sansz, it is said, has commenced to raise shares.

On the 1st inst. a notorious robber named Fong, who had a good number of robbers under his influence, raised the standard of rebellion in Fa-un district. The standard was white with a red round mark in the centre. All the shops in the district have been closed and business is at a standstill. The well-to-do citizens have removed their families to safer places to escape from the ravages of the robbers. The local Magistrate, having a very small force under his command, dares not to cope with the robbers, who become very fierce and cruel and are able to do everything at their will. No step has been taken by the Canton Government to suppress them.

On the 3rd instant seven children, from six to eight years old, were sent by the Magistrate of Pun-u to the charitable institution named Kwang-yau-sin-tong to be taken care of. The children were brought to Canton from Kuchow by the cook of the late Taotai of Ku, Lim, and Yau prefectures, who died recently, for sale. When the children were first brought to Canton they were confined in a house in Ha-ho-tong street. The sudden appearance of the children, whose dialect was different from that of Canton, excited the suspicions of the Haifong people. The taipo of the street reported the case to the Magistrate, who sent some yamen runners to arrest the kidnapper; he pleaded guilty and was locked up in prison.

On the 3rd instant, while soldiers were being drilled at Yin tong a gun exploded, causing the instant death of one of the soldiers.

On the 4th instant a guard boat which was sent to collect revenue from the villages, was robbed in Ta-po village. When the guard boat reached Ta-po in the evening the people thought it was not safe to let the money collected from the various villages remain in the boat. The money was

therefore landed and put in a house in the village. Only two men were left in the guard boat to keep watch on her during the night. About midnight a long boat containing about one hundred robbers came up to her. They were greatly disappointed at finding that, contrary to their expectation, no money was in the guard boat. They carried away all the valuable clothes and weapons they could find.

HONGKONG.

The movements of British men-of-war on the China Station have lately created some amount of excitement, but in well informed circles it is considered that the concentration of the fleet up north is merely a precautionary measure and not in any way indicative of a crisis. On the 8th inst. the Legislative Council met. On the 9th and 10th the annual regatta was held, the afternoon of each day being observed as a holiday. On Saturday last H.E. the Governor presented medals to certain gentlemen who had rendered assistance during the Diamond Jubilee celebration, and on Tuesday His Excellency uttered a few words of advice to the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital. A boxing tournament at the City Hall on Tuesday night attracted a big audience.

There were 2,354 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 149 were Europeans.

The Beef Guild notifies a further increase in the price of beef, owing to the scarcity and high price of cattle.

Two recruits for the police force, who arrived by the last English mail, were sworn in by the Magistrate yesterday.

H.E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the Queen, to the Vagrancy Ordinance.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Monday, the 27th December, is to be observed as a public holiday, the 26th being Sunday.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$25,512, being an increase of \$9,263 on the amount collected in the corresponding month of 1896.

The steamer *Pakhoi*, which arrived on Saturday from Tientsin and Chefoo, rescued twenty-two Chinese sailors from a Shanghai junk in distress north of the Brothers.

Sir Alexander Buller, C.B., having been promoted from the rank of Vice-Admiral to that of Admiral, hoisted his flag at the main on Tuesday on H.M.S. *Centurion*.

The steamer *Glencarn* occupied nine days on the voyage from Hongkong to Singapore. The long passage was beginning to cause some fears as to the vessel's safety.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that owing to the prevalence of foot and mouth disease amongst the cattle in the colony in epidemic form, the Vaccine Institute has been closed until further notice.

At a regular meeting of the Eothen Mark Lodge held on 13th Dec. Bro. S. Hanisch was elected Worshipful Master, Bro. A. O. D. Gourdin, Treasurer, and Bro. J. R. Grumble, Tyler, for the ensuing year.

In connection with the *Camp Gazette* there has just been issued a well executed colotype portrait of H.E. Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., Honorary Colonel of the Corps. The likeness is a capital one.

A startling rumour was current in the colony on 10th Dec. It was to the effect that the *Centurion* and *Iphigenia* had been ordered to be in readiness to proceed to sea within twenty-four hours and that this order had been given in consequence of the projected occupation of Port Arthur by Russia. We have been unable to verify the report, but there is no doubt that unusual activity is being displayed in the Naval Yard, workmen in some of the shops being engaged night and day. On 10th December Admiral Buller, Commodore Holland, and the principal naval officers had a private conference at the Naval Yard, and it was rumoured that the *Centurion* would be despatched to the North early this week. It is well known that the *Centurion* has been held in readiness for some weeks past, so perhaps her coming departure is nothing more than the carrying out of original intentions. Admiral Buller, we hear, will also proceed North, but it is not known whether he will go by the *Alacrity* or the *Centurion*.

The hon. treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Fruit & Vegetable Guild \$50

We have been informed that the Pahang Government have granted the Punjom Mining Company a lease to an area of fifty square miles of territory and that favourable concessions as regards the labour conditions governing as large an area have been extended to the Company. The Company's original prospecting lease expires in March next.

The following is the record in the Football six-a-side competition to 11th December:—

Teams.	Matches Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Goals against.	Points.
Moberley	3	2	0	1	3	0	5
Looker	3	2	1	0	2	1	4
Davies	3	1	0	2	1	0	4
Mackay	3	0	2	1	0	2	1
Wood	Scratched						

At the Magistracy on 11th Dec. R. F. Townsend, an overseer, was charged with indecently assaulting three little girls, whose ages ranged from four to seven years. The assault, it is alleged, was committed in defendant's house on Friday. Evidence was given by two of the girls and the case was remanded until the 14th Dec., bail being allowed in two sureties of \$150 each or one surety of \$300. On the 14th the accused was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

Sam Yeen, who was convicted in June last of being the keeper of a gambling house at No. 2, Wa Lane, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, has been released from Victoria Gaol, after serving nearly six months of his sentence. It will be remembered that Sam Yeen was one of the witnesses who gave evidence in connection with the police scandal. On leaving the gaol he was escorted by a detective to a police pinnace and conveyed on board the night boat to Canton as she was leaving the harbour.

With reference to the recent notification by the Beef Guild of an increase in the price of beef, we are informed by a gentleman who has recently returned from a trip up-country that there is no scarcity of cattle and that no enhancement of price has taken place in the grazing districts. Whatever scarcity or dearth may exist is due solely to the squeezes to which the owners are subjected on the way to Canton and at that city. It is suggested that the matter is one the Registrar-General might profitably investigate.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 30th November, 1897, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,	\$2,820,782	\$1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,	\$5,892,270	\$2,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	\$ 450,000	\$ 205,000
Total	\$9,163,052	\$3,805,000

About half-past ten o'clock on the morning of the 14th December a building at 92 and 94, Hollywood Road, collapsed and a little girl was buried in the debris and killed. For some time past extensive alterations to the wall have been in progress, and just before the occurrence Sergeant Smith and P.C. McSwayd noticed that the wall was bulging. They had just turned to go to the police station with the object of getting the building shored up, when the wall collapsed, bringing with it the front of the building. The building consisted of two storeys and with as much haste as possible a search was made amongst the debris. P.C. McSwayd rescued a girl from one shop and she was at once taken to the hospital, but her injuries were of such a serious nature that she died before the institution was reached. Another girl received injuries to the head, but fortunately they are not serious. The other occupants escaped uninjured.

H.E. the Governor has confirmed the following appointments in the Police Force:—Inspectors Butlin and Kemp, to be first-class Inspectors; Inspectors Duñean and Hannah to be second-class Inspectors; Sergts. Robertson, Baker, and Gillies, to be third-class Inspectors.

The British steamer *Ocampo*, which left Hongkong for Kobe on 24th November, put into Nagasaki on the 3rd instant, having encountered a severe typhoon on the voyage, which for several days prevented her from making any headway, and her coal having been exhausted by that time, a portion of the cargo was used as fuel to enable the vessel to reach Nagasaki. She left the same evening for Kobe after having replenished her bunkers.

The annual installation meeting of the St. John's Lodge was held on Saturday evening, 11th Dec., when Bro. William Farmer was installed as Right Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., assisted by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, D.D.G.M., and the Grand Lodge officers. Right Wor. Bro. Farmer then invested his officers as follows:—S. W., Bro. J. Lochead; J. W., Bro. G. G. Burnett; Treasurer, Bro. C. Parkson; Secretary, Wor. Bro. F. Howell; S. D., Bro. J. Burgess; J. D., Bro. A. Weill; Organist, Bro. A. J. M. Farr; D. C., Bro. W. Robertson; I. G., Bro. F. Powell; Tyler, Bro. J. Jorus. After the closing of the Lodge the brethren sat down to a banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and songs and recitations were given.

The annual installation meeting of the United Service Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, 8th Dec., when Bro. D. Hall was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master, Hon. C. P. Chater, assisted by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, D.D.G.M., and the Grand Lodge Officers. Worshipful Brother Hall then invested his officers as follows:—S. W., Bro. J. Bremner; J. W., Bro. B. Greet; Treasurer, Bro. S. W. Hurst; Secretary, Bro. W. L. Ford; S. D., Bro. G. W. Watling; J. D., Bro. R. W. Strugnell; D. C., Bro. W. H. Woolley; I. G., Bro. J. H. Varcoe; Steward, Bro. W. Robertson; Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grumble. After the closing of the Lodge the brethren sat down to a banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured and a number of the brethren favoured the company with songs and recitations.

As was anticipated, the concert at the Volunteer Institute on Saturday evening, 11th Dec., was a complete success. Major Sir John Carrington, Commandant of the Corps, presided. There was a large attendance of Volunteers and their friends, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The songs and recitations were all good and there were so many that the national anthem was not sung until a few minutes before midnight. The performance of M. Merck was one of the best musical treats we have listened to. He gave two cello solos in a most masterful manner and latter in the evening he, Mr. W. G. Bentley, and Mr. G. P. Lammert performed Braga's serenade, Mr. Bentley playing the clarinet and Mr. Lammert the piano. This item was particularly rich and gave the utmost satisfaction. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Battery Sergeant Major Duncan, and we should like him to organize a concert at headquarters once a month.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 10th December. — From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular:—Our last "printed" Tea market advices were dated 26th ultimo. Black Tea.—A small business has been done at about previous tael prices. The lowest but more quotation for whole leaf Tea is Tls. 11½ a picul, attention has been given to the better classes.

Settlements reported are:—Ningchow ... 1,160 ½-chests, at Tls. 11½ to 17½ picul. Hohow ... 1,591 " " 11½ to 17 " Oonam ... 142 " " 14 to

2,543 ½-chests.

Stock, 13,254 ½-chests.

Green Teas.—The United States Customs Inspectors continue to "shut out" Teas in a most erratic manner. The position seems to be that the whole business of the season has been based on estimates of very short supplies, which if not

realised will incur heavy loss to Importers. Some of them are watching every opportunity to "shut out" one another's Teas by means of the Inspectors, and the laws unfortunately lends itself to support this action. If trade was allowed to run its rightful course no Teas would have been "shut out" this year and most of the unsold stock now in China would have been already shipped. Pingsueys.—Small quantities have been shipped off on native account, but we have heard of no actual sales. The stock which is officially stated as 33,884 half-chests is probably nearer 50,000 half-chests, most of which is wholesome consumable Tea. Country Teas.—We are nearer to the close of this market than is usual at this time of the year, there being no accumulation of lines taken out of chops remaining in Native hands, as is often the case. Prices have been irregular, and when Teamen wanted to close accounts they have shown better value than for some time past. Hysons.—Small purchases have been made for Bombay and Batoum at very irregular rates. Clean drawing Fychows have been bought at Rs. 19/21, and with the exception of choice Teas, which are wanted, all classes look cheap.

Settlements reported are:—

Pingsuey 1,450 at Tls. 25 1/2 to 31 1/2 a picul.
Moyune 4,211 " 19 to 33 "
Local packed... 163 shipped

5,832 1/2 chests

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	Settlements.	Stock.
	1-chts. 1897.	1-chts. 1896.
Pingsuey	79,994	129,580
Moyune	86,738	84,610
Tienkai	82,536	51,246
Fychow	21,977	15,509
Local packed	17,265	7,559
Total	288,510	293,584

Total yield.

Season 1897 X 1897.

	1-chts. 1897.	1-chts. 1896.
Pingsuey	149,811	149,811
Moyune	90,518	90,518
Tienkai	60,642	60,642
Fychow	15,509	15,509
Local packed	8,162	8,162
Total	324,732	324,732

Total arrivals to date are:—

	1-chts. 1897.	1-chts. 1896.
Pingsuey	113,878	113,865
Country Tea & Local packed	210,200	171,014
Total	324,078	314,879

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	5,154,253	5,603,388
Shanghai and Hankow	11,058,839	17,809,183
Foochow	11,950,514	12,262,311
Amoy	660,744	553,223
Total	31,854,350	36,231,107

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	18,823,511	18,244,124
Amoy	11,935,797	16,380,778
Foochow	7,126,264	9,590,452
Total	37,885,572	44,215,254

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	19,162,293	22,049,123

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	25,178,813	23,661,635
Kobe	15,050,493	13,519,633
Total	40,229,306	37,181,268

SILK.

CANTON, 1st December.—The business reported in our last has continued during the fortnight under review. Tsatlies.—Nothing doing with

Europe. A small business is doing for Bombay. Re-reels.—The only business to report is 30 bales No. 1 Grant at \$370. Dealers now ask \$10 to \$20 less, but buyers hold off for lower prices. Filatures.—Have remained almost neglected, especially the fine sizes, and the fortnight's settlements are very moderate. The subjoined quotations are nominal, and on actual sales concessions would be obtainable. From prices paid we quote: \$760 for Min King Lun 11/13, \$725 for Kwong Ho and Wing Hing Lun 11/13, \$700 for Kwong King Loong 11/13. Short-reels.—There has been little request from America, and business has been very limited. Waste.—A shade weaker, with moderate demand.

SHANGHAI, 10th December.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—London advices quote Blue Elephants 10/11, market quiet. Raw Silk.—There has been a little more doing during the last day or two, principally for forward delivery, the tightness of money continues, native interest is quoted 22 per cent, but cash sales of silk are the exception. The following quotations have transpired:—

Gold Kilin	125	Cash.
Chaey Kilin	497 1/2	
Gold Kilin	437 1/2	
Double Silver Elephant	445	Jan. delivery.
Red Pagoda 3	480	
Do	465	

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 2nd to 8th Dec.: 381 bales White, 51 piculs Yellow, and 75 piculs Wild Silks.

Stock according to Customs Returns of Arrivals and shipments to date is:—

White Silk	9,500 bales.
Yellow "	3,000 "
Wild "	2,000 "

The Export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows: to America 3,131 bales, to the Continent 2,329 bales, to London 19 bales, and to Japan 5 bales. Waste Silk.—A further quantity of 2 and 3 Carles has been settled, making in all about 600 piculs; at Tls. 37 average for 70 per cent, and 30 per cent.

Prices calculated by Maarten's Tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/9 1/2; Freight Tls. 7.8 per bale:—

	Tls.	Stg.
	per lb.	per lb.
Tsatlies.—Red Pagoda 3	480	11 5/8
" Bird Yangling	450	10 9
" Seeling	440	10 6
" Silver Dble. Elephant	445	10 7 1/2
" Blue	435	10 5
" Gold Kilin	425	10 2 1/2
" Chay Kilin	407 1/2	9 9 1/2
" Chintar Chavling	420	10 1 1/2
" Blue Phoenix	437 1/2	10 5 1/2
Tayssam.—Green Kaling Gold Goose No. 2	355	9 3
" Gr. Almond Flower No. 1	355	8 9 1/2
Yellow Silk.—Meeyang	310	7 6 1/2
" Fooyung	315	7 7 1/2
" Mienchow	307 1/2	7 5 1/2
" Szechong	215	5 4

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales	bals.
Shanghai	6,785	2,123
Canton	7,905	1,914
Yokohama	21,174	6,281
Total	35,864	10,318

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales	bales
Shanghai	32,896	23,079
Canton	15,975	16,977
Yokohama	13,197	5,471
Total	62,068	45,527

CANTON.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—The weakness continues and prices have further declined. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$14.75 to \$15.00. Sales, 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 15th December.—The market continues brisk and prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—

Shacklong, No. 1, White	\$7.31 to 7.35	per c.
do. " 2, White	6.94 to 6.97	
Shacklong, No. 1, Brown	4.73 to 4.76	
do. " 2, Brown	4.61 to 4.64	
Santow, No. 1, White	\$7.24 to 7.28	
do. " 2, White	6.91 to 6.92	
Santow, No. 1, Brown	4.65 to 4.67	
do. " 2, Brown	4.51 to 4.54	
Szechow Sugar Candy	11.20 to 11.22	
Shacklong "	9.73 to 9.75	

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per American ship *Agenor*, sailed on the 30th November. For New York:—19 packages capes, 23 packages merchandise, 24 packages woodware, 100 cases Saigon cassia, 644 packages rattanware, 1,150 packages preserves, 2,720 boxes palmleaf fans, 5,426 rolls matting, 8,494 packages firecrackers and 11,310 packages tea.

Per American ship *Abner Coburn*, sailed on the 30th November. For New York:—9 cases blackwoodware, 31 cases bambooware, 35 cases heather scrubs, 120 cases preserves, 164 bales rattans, 271 packages rattan furniture, 2,100 packages cassia, 4,272 packages crackers, 5,157 cases fans and 16,278 rolls matting.

Per P & O steamer *Manila*, sailed on the 2nd December. For London:—3 cases cigars from Manila, 41 cases chinaware, 16 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases silk piece goods, 2 cases cigars, 12 cases curios, 7 cases pers. effects, 1 case sundries, 702 cases and 638 cases preserves, 12 bales rattan, 156 bales canes, 48 bales feathers, 215 rolls mats and matting and 9,611 boxes tea (202,344 lbs.). For London and/or Manchester:—190 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—16 cases cigars from Manila. For Milan:—200 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *Melbourne*, sailed on the 8th December. For France:—277 bales raw silk, 11 bales hair, 4 cases silk piece goods, 33 cases essential oil, 25 cases gallnuts, 9 cases woodware and 143 packages tea. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk.

Per German steamer *Thekla*, sailed on the 8th December. From Hongkong for Suez:—100 boxes cassia. For Odessa:—67 bales galangal. For Havre:—42 bales canes, 16 boxes feathers, 7 boxes lacqd. ware, 14 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases silks, 160 cases chinaware, 40 cases bristle and 300 boxes tea. For Havre option Hamburg:—20 cases strained seed, 5 bales canes and 50 cases cassia. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—400 cases camphor, 20 cases essential oil and 150 packages galangal. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—50 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—513 cases camphor, 3 cases cigars, 310 cases cassia oil, 414 bales feathers, 34 cases bristles, 343 bales canes, 10 boxes essential oil, 13 rolls matting, 3 cases chinaware 10 cases paper, 501 boxes tea, 81 packages firecrackers, 2 cases silks and 23 packages sundries. For Lisbon:—1 case chinaware and 1 box tea.

Per P & O steamer *Formosa*, sailed on the 10th December. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For London:—5 cases cigars from Manila, 3 cases silk piece goods, 3 cases woodware, 27 cases pearl shells, 5 cases cigars, 9 cases sundries, 1 case feathers, 1 case lacqd. ware, 463 packages crackers, 1,519 rolls mats and matting and 565 boxes tea (11,865 lbs.). For Malta:—1 case silk piece goods.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Bengal.—The market has ruled quiet, and a slight drop in prices has taken place, New Patna closing at \$687 1/2 and New Benares at \$725.

Malwa.—There has been a fall in the prices of this drug, which has been dealt in on a small scale during the period under review. Latest quotations are as follow:—

New (this yr.)	\$700 with allowance of 1/2 to 3 cts.
Old (2/3 ")	\$720 " 2 to 0 "
" (4/6 ")	\$710 " 0 to 2 "

Persian.—The demand has been very slack, and prices have consequently declined. Current rates are \$190 to \$205 for Oily and \$540 to \$650 for Paper-wrapped drug.

Today's stocks are estimated as under:—
New Patna 1,540 chests.
New Benares 720 "
Malwa 360 "
Persian 130 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dec. 8	690	—	725	—	700	720/740
Dec. 9	690	—	730	—	700	720/740
Dec. 10	690	—	730	—	700	720/740
Dec. 11	690	—	727 1/2	—	700	720/740
Dec. 12	690	—	725	—	700	720/740
Dec. 13	690	—	725	—	700	720/740
Dec. 14	690	—	725	—	700	720/740
Dec. 15	687 1/2	—	725	—	700	720/740

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—A somewhat small business has been done at almost steady rates. Stock, about 400 bales.

Bombay	\$15.00 to 16.00 p. pl.
Kurrachee	15.00 to 15.50 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	16.00 to 17.00 "
Shanghai and Japanese	19.00 to 19.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo	19.00 to 19.50 "
Madras (Best)	16.00 to 16.75 "
Sales: 315 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—A great decline in prices has taken place and the market is weak. There is no demand from Japan or the Straits.

Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.30 to 2.33
Round, good quality	2.54 to 2.58
Long	2.65 to 2.75
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.30 to 2.35
Garden, No. 1	2.80 to 2.85
White	3.70 to 3.75
Fine Cargo	3.90 to 4.05

COALS.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—More Contracts for 1898 are reported for Japanese on private terms. Market fairly steady.

Cardiff	\$16.50 to 18.00 ex ship, nominal.
Australian	\$9.00 to 11.00 small and lump.
Miki Lump	9.00 to 10.25 nominal.
and Small	
Moji Lump	\$7.75 to 10.00 ex ship, steady

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—25 bales No. 8 at \$79, 600 bales No. 10 at \$73.50 to \$86, 235 bales No. 12 at \$80 to \$85, 130 bales No. 16 at \$89.50 to \$91, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$87 to \$99. **Japanese Yarn.**—50 bales No. 12 at \$79, 50 bales No. 16 at \$86, 50 bales No. 26 at \$90. **Grey Shirtings.**—600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss No. 2 at \$2.97, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Dog at \$2.57. **White Shirtings.**—2,000 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.30. **T-Cloths.**—600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$3.05, 225 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Dragon at \$2.20, 2,425 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.37, 225 pieces 7 lbs. Black and Silver Joss at \$2.85, 225 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.31, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Silver Pheasant at \$1.87, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Silver Lion at \$1.85. **Drills.**—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.20, 300 pieces 16 lbs. 2 Lions No. 38 at \$5.30.

METALS.—Iron.—100 tons Swedish soft Lars at \$5.75.

COTTON YARN.	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.	63.00 to 92.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	110.00 to 117.00
22 to 24	112.00 to 119.00
28 to 32	121.00 to 126.00
38 to 42	132.00 to 139.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6½ lbs.	1.70 to 1.80
7½ lbs.	2.00 to 2.05
8½ lbs.	2.45 to 3.15
9 to 10 lbs.	3.35 to 4.10
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.55
58 to 60	2.70 to 3.40
64 to 66	3.50 to 4.35
Fine	4.30 to 7.10
Book-folds	3.75 to 5.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.65 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6½ lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.50 to 1.70
7½ lbs. (32 in.)	1.85 to 2.10
6½ lbs. (32 in.), Mexs.	1.65 to 1.80
7½ lbs. (32 in.)	2.05 to 2.75
8 to 8½ oz. (36 in.)	2.30 to 3.15
Drills, English—40 yds, 13½ to 14½ lbs.	3.70 to 5.10

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 7½ lbs.	1.45 to 4.00
Brocades—Dyed	4.00 to 4.75
	per yard
Daniasks	0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.24 to 0.32
Velveteens—18 in.	0.18 to 0.21
	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.50 to 0.90
WOOLLENS	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.62 to 1.30
German	1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths	1.45 to 5.25
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet	7.15 to 9.00
Assorted	7.25 to 9.25
Camlets—Assorted	14.00 to 35.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted } 12.00 to 22.00

Orleans—Plain 3.60 to 4.50

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 5.70 to 12.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod 4.20 to —

Square, Flat, Round Bar ... 4.25 to —

Swedish Bar 5.90 to —

Small Round Rod 4.50 to —

Hoop 4.75 to —

Wire 15/25 8.75 to —

Old Wire Rope 1.50 to 3.00

Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.25 to —

Australian 8.25 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. 29.00 to —

Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 28.75 to —

Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 28.75 to —

Composition Nails — to —

Japan Copper, Slabs 29.50 to —

Tin — to —

Tin-Plates 5.80 to —

Steel ½ to ¾ 5.50 to —

SUNDRIES per picul

Quicksilver 126.00 to —

Window Glass 4.00 to —

Kerosene Oil 1.93 to —

Exchange, but even yet the native dealers are adverse to paying the prices necessary, owing to the condition of the home markets. On the other hand, importers are loth to enter into new contracts until they have cleared off their old importations, and there has thus resulted a dearth in actual transactions; therefore no real idea of the state of the market can be given. Despite this, however, the following contracts have been booked:—200 tons "Goffin" Nail Rods at 130/131s., c.i.f., 100 tons "Red Car" Pig Iron at 73s. 6d., c.i.f., 100 tons Steel Plate Cuttings at 91s., c.i.f., 100 tons Coke at 48/6, c.i.f., 100 tons Old Round Iron at 100/101s., c.i.f., 200 tons New Cobbles at 110s., c.i.f.

EXCHANGE.

WEDNESDAY, 15th December.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/00

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.47
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.52

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.00
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	157
Bank, on demand	157½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	157
Bank, on demand	157½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	nom.
Private, 30 days' sight	—

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	3½ % pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	5½ % pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	par.
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SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.04

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 53.00

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—The market continues inactive with but little business and rates weak.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in request for small odd lots at 173 to 175 per cent. prem. with small sales. Nationals remain out of the market and without business at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders are on offer at \$70 without leading to business. Unions, Cantons, and Straits are all obtainable at quotations with no sales to report. The Northern Insurances have weakened in Shanghai, North Chinas being quoted at Tls. 195 and Yangtszes at \$145.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs and Chinas have been on offer during the week at quotations with only small sales of the latter at \$107 and \$106.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao unchanged with a small business at \$28½ and \$29½. Indos have ruled quiet at quotation with small sales. Douglasses remain steady at \$57 with small sales. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars in the early part of the week changed hands at \$153 and \$153½; later, however, with a small unsatisfied demand the rate improved to \$155 and \$156, shares being transacted for cash and the end of the month; on time sales were effected at \$162 for March. Luzons continue neglected and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms have found buyers at \$4.40, \$4.30, and \$4.50 during the week and close steady at \$4.40. Charbonnages have changed hands at \$102½ and \$105, closing steady with buyers at the latter rate. Jelebus, Olivers B., and Great Easterns have found small buyers at quotations, the latter closing with sellers at \$6 and \$2.90. Raubs continue quiet but steady and sales have been effected at \$21, \$20½, and \$20 for cash and at \$22 for January and \$22½ for March, market closing quiet at \$20.

SHANGHAI, 9th December.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co's. Piece Goods Trade Report)—The last steamers for Tientsin were despatched on the morning of the 7th inst. with full cargoes, including a fair quantity of Yarn and Piece Goods, especially the former, but the clearances of these have had scarcely any perceptible effect on Importers. Money is somewhat easier now, but the late stringency has caused considerable havoc amongst the natives connected with the trade and much weeding out will be done at the coming annual settlement. Even firms of long standing and repute have announced their intention of retiring from the trade, it being too risky and unreliable, and until sterling settles down on a more stable basis than has been the case for the past twelve months, the indent system must be suspended and the old style of pukka merchant's business reverted to. At present very few Import houses have the temerity to book orders for the coming season, and those in the position are quietly laying in supplies of suitable goods on their own account with which to meet the demand at the re-opening of the season after the New Year holidays. The failure of a Piece Goods hong of fairly good standing is announced with liabilities something like Tls. 30,000, but the Importers interested are amply covered by margins. A native Bank is also in difficulties to the tune of Tls. 175,000. There are, however, hosts of minor troubles attributable to this season's trade, and the Mixed Court is full of cases in which Importers are trying in vain to get some satisfaction. Business in spot cargo is virtually at a stand-still privately but at Auction a slightly firmer tendency is prevailing at the moment. Forward transactions, which have been few and far between, have met with a check at the close by the decline in Exchange and the refusal of the Banks to entertain business any distance ahead. A great many offers have been submitted during the week, but only about one in ten was practicable. From the Outports there is very little of interest to report. The rush of steamers to Tientsin during the last fortnight has caused rather a block there, on account of the scarcity of lighters. The report that the little trouble with Germany has been amicably settled without the cession of territory should have a re-assuring effect, but will not meet with much credence until they actually withdraw, so trade with Chefoo may be considered closed for the season. There is a small demand for the River and Ningpo which is met chiefly by Native holders and the Auctions. The Yarn market is in a wretched state and will probably remain so for a considerable time. The over production in Japan is causing great anxiety here, as it is feared that this market must be the dumping ground for their surplus stocks. Already, it is said, 30,000 bales are lying in Osaka awaiting some outlet, and meanwhile the number of spindles is increasing. At present 300,000 are running, but it is expected that there will be 1,150,000 in another two months' time, calculated to produce 680,000 bales per annum, against a home consumption of say 350,000 bales!

METALS. 10th December.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co's Report)—There has been a slightly better enquiry owing to the rise in

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been on offer at quotation without inducing buyers to come forward. Kowloon Wharves have ruled weak with sellers and no sales at \$60, and \$59 for small lots would doubtless be accepted. Wan-chais are on offer at reduced rates, but are not wanted at the moment.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue dull and neglected at \$74 with no business to report. Hotels have found small buyers at \$49 for cash and sales have been effected for March at \$52. West Points and Humphreys unchanged and without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have further improved with sales at \$324, \$324, and \$33 for old and at \$174 and \$174 for new shares. Watsons have found small buyers at \$12, but more shares are obtainable at the rate. Gas shares have changed hands at \$120, Electrics at \$10, Fenwicks at \$29, and Hongkong Spinning Co. at \$17. All Cotton Mills have suffered a decline in the North and are weak at quotations.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		[\$343.75, sales
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	175 " prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£3 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s., buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$23
Founders Shares...	£1	\$23, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	\$5
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8.75, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$156, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 100	Tls. 100, sellers
Hongkong	\$20	\$17, sales
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 107, sellers
Latou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 104, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 530, sellers
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 100
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$34
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$29, sales
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$33, sales
Do. New Issue	\$24	\$18
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$112, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$49, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$113
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$60, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$222 p. et. prem.=
Insurances—		[\$402, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$157, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$106, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$70
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365, sales
North-China	\$25	Tls. 118, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$17, sales
Union	\$25	\$230, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$150, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$74, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9.25, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$19, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$214
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$13, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$0.05, sal. & buyers
Great E. & C. Coni. n	\$5	\$6, sellers
Do. Do.	\$24	\$2.90, sal & sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$2
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.40, sal. & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$20
Do. B. ...	\$24	\$71, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$1.40, sales
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.10, sales
Raub	13s. 10d.	\$191, sales
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$18, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$76, sellers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£2 1s. buyers
Do. Preference...	£10	£7 10s. buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$57, sales & buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$284, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$51, sales & sellers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$2, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$374	\$43, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 10th December.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—The stock of money has been increased, and Native interest has fallen to about 9 per cent. per annum. But there is not much of this available for the purchase of shares, and as a result cash business has not been great. But rates have been generally maintained, with a few exceptions. Banks—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares have been placed at 176 and 175 per cent. premium. For the December settlement business was done at 178 per cent. premium. Other Bank shares are unchanged. Marine Insurance.—North-China shares were placed at Tls. 200, and are offering. Yangtze shares were forced off at \$140. Straits shares are quoted \$174 in the South Fire Insurance.—There is no business to report under this head. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were sold for the 31st current at Tls. 374. China Mutual S. N. Ordinary shares, with £5 paid up, were placed at Tls. 26. Sugar Companies.—Local business has been confined to Perak Sugar Cultivation shares at Tls. 34. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares were placed at \$4.50. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai Engineering and Dock shares were sold at Tls. 85 cash and Tls. 86 for the 31st current. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were forced off at Tls. 115. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 90. Industrials.—Major Prothers shares were placed at Tls. 30. In Cotton Mill shares, Ewos were sold at Tls. 104, and later at Tls. 100 cash; International shares at Tls. 107/8 cash, closing at Tls. 107 1/2, at Tls. 108/110 for 31st current, and Tls. 117/114 for the 31st March; Laon-Kung-Mow shares at Tls. 103 1/2 cash and Tls. 110 for the 31st March; Soy Chee shares at Tls. 540 5/45. Shanghai Rice Mill shares were placed at Tls. 28, and China Flour Mill shares were sold at Tls. 68 cash and Tls. 73 for April delivery, and are offering. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—The Shanghai Tugboat Company advertises a third interim dividend of Tls. 5, payable on the 15th current. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 79 to Tls. 82 for cash, Tls. 82 for the 31st December, and Tls. 85 for the 31st March. Shanghai-Langkai shares changed hands at Tls. 330/290 cash, Tls. 365 for March, and Tls. 401 for April. Central Store shares were sold at \$13 net, and Green Island Cement shares for cash at \$31 1/2 for Old and \$16 1/2 for New, and Old shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$54 for delivery on the 30th April. Loans.—Shanghai Land 6 per cent, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures were placed at par, plus the accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Freights during the past fortnight have continued firm, and in some directions have improved.

From Saigon to Hongkong, there is little or no enquiry for ready steamers, the rate is nominally 15 cents per picul, but to Kobe there has been an active demand, and some 350,000 piculs of tonnage have been placed at \$4 to 35 cents per picul, mostly for February loading. To Java there is an enquiry at 22 cents per picul, and to Singapore a small carrier has been fixed at 18 cents per picul.

From Bangkok to Hongkong, a better demand existed at 21 cents outside and 26 cents inside the bar. One steamer has been closed at 23, 25 cents; at the moment the market is quiet.

Japan coal freights remain weak. Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65, to Singapore \$2.60, Mororan to Hongkong \$2.50 has been paid and further tonnage could be placed.

Sailing tonnage—A vessel has been taken hence to New York at about 12 1/2 cts. per ton of 40 cubic feet, and there is no further demand.

There are five vessels disengaged in port, registering 5,108 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Gerard C. Tobey—American ship, 1,390 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.

Taiyick—German steamer, 1,063 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 35 cents per picul, option Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Hanchow—British steamer, 999 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 34 cents per picul.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 34 cents per picul.

Amara—British steamer, 1,565 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 34 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Kobe, at 34 cents per picul for six separate loadings of 33,000 piculs each—February 1st, 5th, 10th, 10th, 15th, and 20th.

An Indo-China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Kobe, 32,000 piculs 34 cents per picul loading 1st February.

Independent—German steamer, 1,003 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 1/2 cents per picul.

Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Singapore, 18 cents per picul.

Amara—British steamer, 1,565 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 21 1/2 and 26 1/2 cents per picul.

Taksang—British steamer, 977 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 21 and 26 cents per picul.

Lienshing—British steamer, 1,040 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 23 and 28 cents per picul.

Loksang—British steamer, 979 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, \$10,000 in full.

Chusan—German steamer, 719 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 35 cents per picul.

Else—German steamer, 747 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 35 cents per picul.

Kwongsang—British steamer, 980 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Taicheng—German steamer, 939 tons, two ports Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Astrid—Norwegian steamer, 976 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Benvenue—British steamer, 1,468 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Dorothea Rickmers—German steamer, 2,412 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.45 per ton.

Krim—Norwegian steamer, 1,104 tons, Port Wal-lut to Hongkong, \$4,000 in full.

Loksang—British steamer, 979 tons, Mororan to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Hongkong to Amoy, \$2.50 per ton.

Helene Rickmers—German steamer, 2,255 tons, Moji and/or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$2.60 per ton.

Knivsberg—German steamer, 524 tons, monthly, 6, 6 months, \$5,200 per month.

Else—German steamer, 747 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5,300 per month.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, monthly, 6, 6 months, \$4,250 per month.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,067 tons, monthly, 6, 6 months, \$5,500 per month.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,145 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,250 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Pyrrhus* (str.), Canton (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*New York*, *Coptic* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Dromedary*, *Gerard C. Tobey* (str.), *Fernfield* (str.), *Sikh* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Prinz Heinrich* (str.).
For BALTIMORE.—*St. Katherine* (str.).
For PORTLAND.—*Mogul* (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—*Tokio Maru* (str.), *Tsinan* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Sanuki Maru* (str.), *Pectan* (str.), *Ernest Simons* (str.).
For TACOMA.—*Braemar* (str.).
For SEATTLE.—*Riojun Maru* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

December—
7, Holstein, German str., from Chefoo.
8, Krim, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
8, Peru, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
8, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
8, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
8, Hoihow, British str., from Canton.
8, Comete, French gunboat, from Macao.
8, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
8, Deucalion, British str., from Sandakan.
8, Independent, German str., from Saigon.
8, Chunsang, British str., from Kobe.
8, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Swatow.
8, Sullberg, German str., from Swatow.
8, Ulysses, British str., from Shanghai.
8, Taiyick, German str., from Saigon.
8, Knivsberg, German str., from Haiphong.
8, Chihli, British str., from Wuhu.
9, Formosa, British str., from Yokohama.
9, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
9, Hanseat, Norwegian str., from New York.
9, Fansang, British str., from Moji.
9, Bayard, French flagship, from Yokohama.
9, Descartes, French cruiser, from Kobe.
9, Humbert, British storeship, from Nagasaki.
9, Hailan, French str., from Haiphong.
9, Tamarind, Norwegian str., from Moji.
9, Smit, Dutch str., from Canton.
9, Bardou, British str., from Singapore.
10, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
10, Kriemhild, German str., from Hamburg.
10, Olympia, British str., from Tacoma.
10, Peshawur, British str., from Bombay.
10, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.

10, Andania, British str., from Rangoon.
 10, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 10, Progress, German str., from Haiphong.
 10, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
 10, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
 11, Tientsin, British str., from Canton.
 11, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 11, Hector, British str., from Singapore.
 11, Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.
 11, Toonan, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 11, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
 11, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 11, Cromarty, British str., from Amoy.
 11, Java, British str., from London.
 11, Pakhoi, British str., from Tientsin.
 12, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 12, Rio, German str., from Singapore.
 12, Columbus, German ship, from New York.
 12, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
 12, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
 12, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 13, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
 13, Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.
 13, Jason, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
 13, Canton, British str., from Chinkiang.
 13, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
 13, Sagami Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
 13, Narcissus, British cr., from P. Hamilton.
 13, Hainan, German str., from Touron.
 13, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Astral, British str., from Sembilan.
 13, Tancarville, British str., from Sumatra.
 14, Mirzapore, British str., from Shanghai.
 14, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 14, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 14, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from K'notzu.
 14, Woukoi, British str., from Bangkok.
 14, Chihli, British str., from Canton.
 14, Holstein, German str., from Canton.
 14, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 14, Nanyang, German str., from Coast Ports.
 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 15, Toonan, Chinese str., from Canton.
 15, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
 15, Helene Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 15, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 15, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
 15, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.
 15, Tsinan, British str., from Kobe.
 15, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from K'notzu.

December—
 8, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Foochow.
 8, Taksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 8, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 8, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 8, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 8, Hoihow, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 8, Loksang, British str., for Iloilo.
 8, Melbourne, French str., for Europe.
 8, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., for Bangkok.
 8, Port Adelaide, British str., for Yokohama.
 8, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 9, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 9, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
 9, Independent, German str., for Kobe.
 9, Holstein, German str., for Canton.
 9, Thekla, German str., for Singapore.
 9, Bengo, Portuguese gbt., for Macao.
 9, Kaisow, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 9, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
 9, Ulysses, British str., for London.
 10, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 10, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Benvenue, British str., for Nagasaki.
 10, Chw'nsan, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 10, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 10, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
 10, Cometa, French g-bt., for Saigon.
 11, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Formosa, British str., for Singapore.
 11, Knivsberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 11, Pronto, German str., for Touron.
 11, Amara, British str., for Bangkok.
 11, Burdon, British str., for Hioho.
 11, Andania, British str., for Kobe.
 11, Hansat, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 11, Krim, Norw. str., for Kebao.
 11, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 12, Chunsang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 12, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.

12, Jacob Christiansen, Norw. str., for Kobe.
 12, Keongwai, British str., for Hoihow.
 12, Kriemhild, German str., for Yokohama.
 12, Taiyok, German str., for Saigon.
 12, Tientsin, British str., for Batavia.
 12, Pakhoi, British str., for Canton.
 12, Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
 12, Bayard, French flagship, for Touron.
 12, Descartes, French cr., for Touron.
 13, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 13, Toonan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 13, Cromarty, British str., for Singapore.
 13, Hangchow, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Menmuir, British str., for Kobe.
 14, Canton, British str., for Canton.
 14, Rio, German str., for Amoy.
 14, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Chusan, German str., for Shanghai.
 14, Cheangchow, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Progress, German str., for Haiphong.
 14, Chihli, British str., for Kebao.
 14, Java, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 14, Olympia, British str., for Portland.
 14, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 15, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 15, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 15, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 15, Helene Rickmers, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 15, China, German str., for Saigon.
 15, Ousang, British str., for Singapore.
 15, Tancarville, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Miclin, E. Thomas, and N. D. Ollia and 297 Chinese.
 Per *Peru*, for Hongkong, from Nagasaki, Messrs. J. Pestonjee and D. Nowrojee; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey and children, Messrs. F. J. Renville and F. J. Gause.
 Per *Deucalion*, from Sandakan, Mrs. Greig.
 Per *Formosa*, for London, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser, and Children Misses Fraser, Master F. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Corke, and Lient. Allen; from Shanghai, Messrs. Shaw and McKenzie; for Hongkong, Messrs. Marshall and Todhunter.
 Per *Fausang*, from Moji, Mrs. D. A. Purvis, Mr. Leroy.
 Per *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Mr. Thos. Brett.
 Per *Catherine Apcar*, from Singapore, Miss Reid; from Calcutta, Mr. N. Chunder Dutt.
 Per *Haimun*, from Coast Ports, Mr. Hutchinson and 133 Chinese.
 Per *Hector*, from Singapore, 250 Chinese.
 Per *Toonan*, from Shanghai, Messrs. G. Samson and D. Marshall.
 Per *Hailong*, from Tamsui, &c., Capt. Lush.
 Per *Java*, from London for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Hooper and 2 children, Mrs. Northcote, Mr. Burnie, Mr. Howait, and Mr. J. L. Lewis Stoker, R.N.; for Shanghai, Mr. Beeston; for Yokohama, Miss Ballard.
 Per *Loosok*, from Bangkok, Mr. Nissel Salva.
 Per *Jason*, from Singapore, &c., Mr. Menon.
 Per *Verona*, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Dr. P. May, Capt. Tillett, and Mr. L. Kirk; for Colombo, Messrs. A. J. Verini and C. Wrenn; for Brindisi, Revs. E. Reid and C. Beard; from Kobe for Hongkong, Messrs. T. Bunge and Jusuki, Mrs. Chang Shui and infant; from Nagasaki for Hongkong, Messrs. Crowe and J. Chester Mort; for Singapore, Miss Matsukura; for Calcutta, Mr. and Mrs. Espiesse, Misses Espiesse (2).
 Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong from London, Miss Locke King, Mr. R. Corbett, Mrs. Kyles, Mrs. Ewing, Messrs. J. Dickson, D. McKenzie, W. Ritchie, D. McHardy, F. Prosser, D. Gourlay, A. Clark, N. Lamont, M. Faherty, J. Hood, R. Fenton, Miss Laider, Messrs. W. H. Day and Ewing; from Brindisi, Mr. W. S. Orr; from Bombay, Messrs. R. Versaybhoy and Gaynor; from Colombo, Mr. J. Sullivan; from Singapore, Messrs. Demme, Cruikshank, Mrs. J. A. Borel and 3 children, and Mr. Fatehally Abdeali; for Shanghai from London, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hunt, Miss L. Heron, Miss Lilly, Mr. Bland, Misses

Permon, Johansen, Russell, Suter, and Dunn Messrs. Murray, McCallum, J. Douglas, and Binnie; from Brindisi, Messrs. H. B. Bailey and W. Ellis; from Singapore, Messrs. G. Wright, Lee Snt Am, and Fermo Gritty; for Yokohama from Brindisi, Messrs. L. Borringer, and (2) Borringer; from Colombo, Mr. F. Borraeta.
 Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Powell, Brown, and Lient. H. A. Edwards.
 Per *Wongkoi*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. Ingles.
 Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Rombach and Carvy.
 Per *Mirzapore*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Surg. Capt. J. Watson; from Shanghai, Messrs. Tong Kut Hing, Chan Lok Quan, F. N. Firth, Borneman, and Ting; for London, Mr. J. H. Craven, Surg.-Major Henston, Misses D. N. Wallace, J. Branscombe and J. T. Hoskyn.

DEPARTED.

Per *Saghalien*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Y. Usin, C. Machida, J. da Silva, D. Kawada, B. Watanabe, K. Kaminami, W. Nilsen, and A. Kuhn; for Kobe, Mr. Jendwine; for Yokohama, Miss Persira, Sister Marie du Sacré Cœur, and Mr. A. Bellesort.
 Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. Leandree and A. Grossmann, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Rose, Miss A. C. Rose, Mr. H. A. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Dixey, Miss R. Dixey, Mr. A. Dixey, Miss Dressel, Messrs. A. Pye-Smith, W. G. Rossell, and I. H. Fertig, Dr. and Mrs. E. A. Chill; for Colombo, Messrs. Charles Fink, I. Moulton Barrett, Misses Ch. Bowditch, S. F. Baylor, H. Procter, and E. G. Houghton, and Mr. Ch. W. Taintor; for Port Said, Messrs. Swadkowsky and Ch. Hartsborne, and Miss A. C. Hartsborne; for Naples, Messrs. L. A. Musso and G. D. Musso; for Genoa, Capt. Du Bois, Lient. Rohardt, Messrs. Alex. Iores, Kranser-Wichmann, and G. Hartig; for Southampton, Mr. J. Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Brand and child; for Bremen, Messrs. Weidemann and W. Steinmetz; from Shanghai for Genoa, H. E. Lu, family and suite, Mrs. Tohen and child; from Yokohama for Bremen, Miss R. Brodmann; from Nagasaki for Port Said, Lient. Lestieff; for Naples, Mr. P. Dantoni; from Japan for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Schwarz; for Genoa, Lient. Polekarpow, Lient. and Mrs. Leskoff, and Lient. Trinitovius; for Southampton, Mrs. B. H. Pratt, Mrs. Austen, Miss W. Austen, Mr. H. Austen, and Miss Williams; for London, Miss E. M. Cabeldn, Mrs. I. Harvey; for Bremen, Lient. Paul de Rodstverry.
 Per *Belgie*, for Shanghai, Count A. von Butler, Mr. Marquadt; for Yokohama, Mrs. Loomis; for San Francisco, Lient. and Mrs. Connolly and 2 children, Surg.-Col. and Mrs. W. F. Center; for Bremen, Mr. F. Morsberger.
 Per *Melbourne*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Messrs. l'Abbi Quinton and Guion; for Singapore, Messrs. J. B. Kerfoot, Jamada, and H. Kock; for Marseilles, Mr. L. Thomas.
 Per *Formosa*, from Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. F. W. G. Chisolm, Hon. Geo. Jolliffe and Lady Alice Jolliffe; for London, Messrs. A. H. Kirk and G. Richardson, and Misses Richardson (2); from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Frazer, Misses Frazer (2), Masters Frazer (2), Master F. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Corke, and Lient. Allen; from Shanghai, Messrs. Shaw and McKenzie.
 Per *Kutsang*, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe, Messrs. Reid and Schultz.
 Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr. Eduardo Saavedra, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Messrs. William P. Rankin and P. Schneider.
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